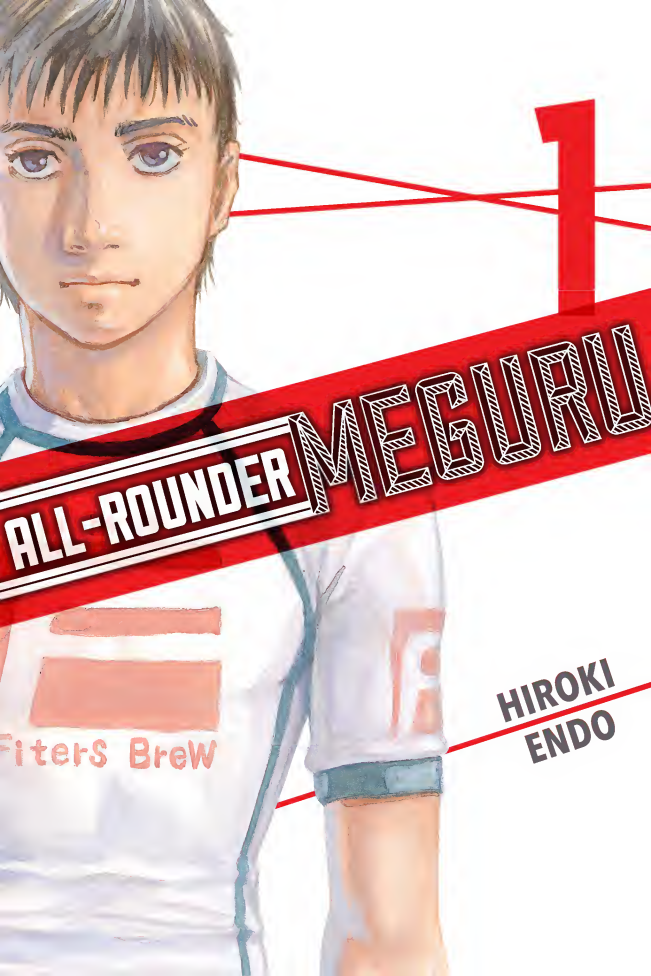

Fiters BreW

ALL-ROUNDER MEGURU

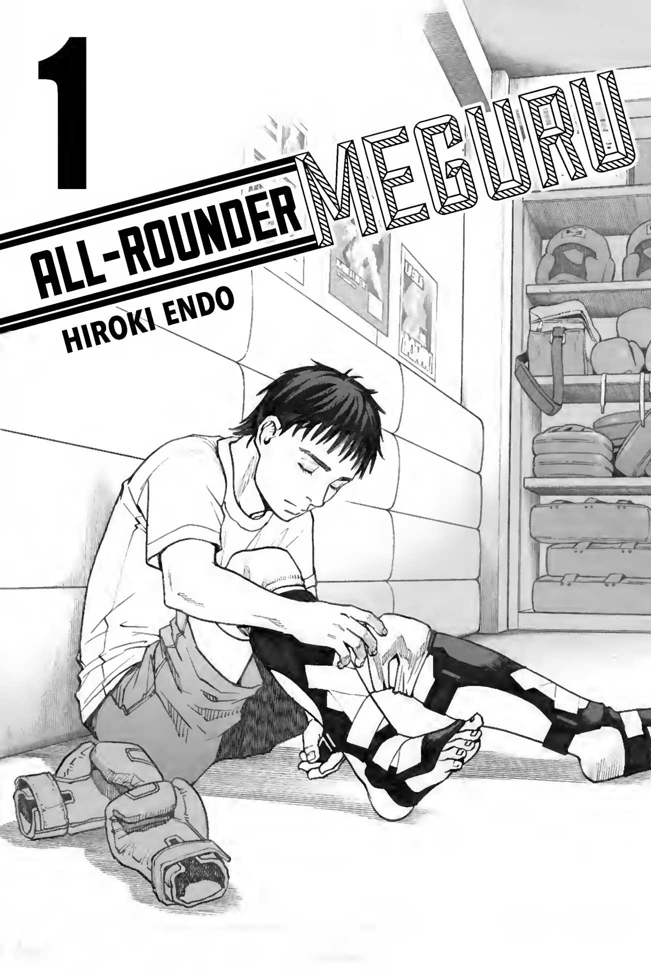
1

HIROKI
ENDO

1

ALL-ROUNDER MEGURU

HIROKI ENDO



ALL ROUNDER MEGURU 1
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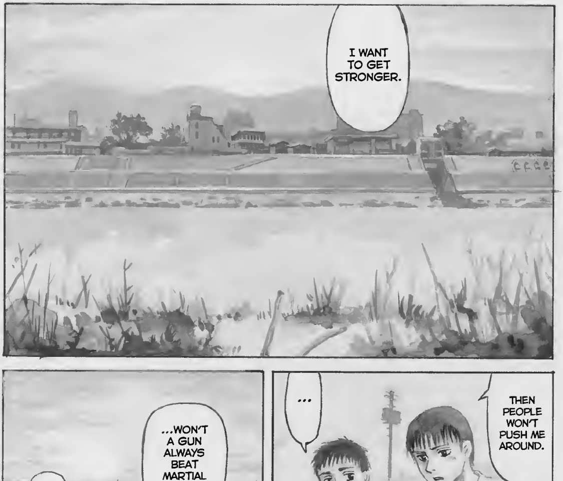
PRODUCTION STAFF

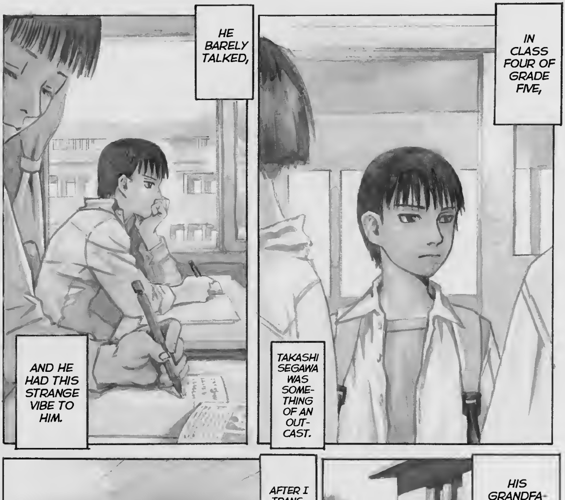
HIROFUMI NIIHARA | KAZUKIYO YAMAMOTO

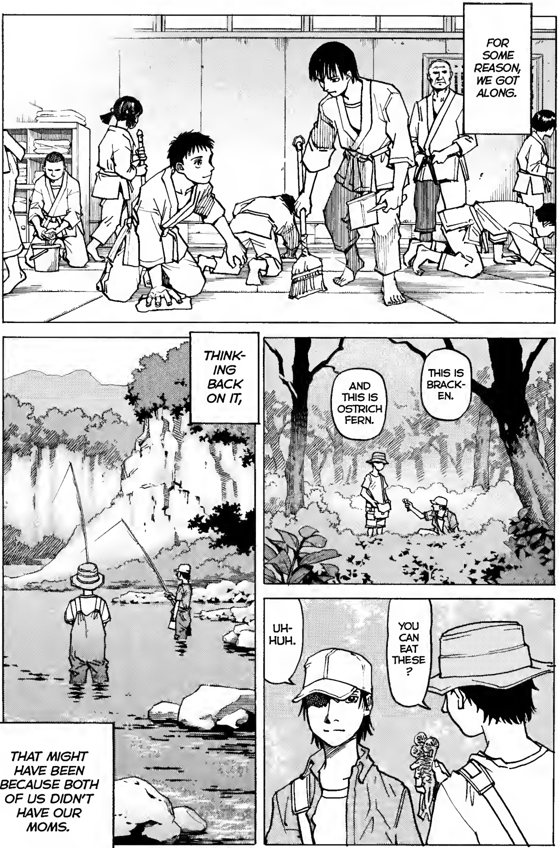

I WANT TO GET STRONGER.
THEN PEOPLE WON'T PUSH ME AROUND.
...
...WON'T A GUN ALWAYS BEAT MARTIAL ARTS?
...
BUT Y'KNOW,
IN THE END ...

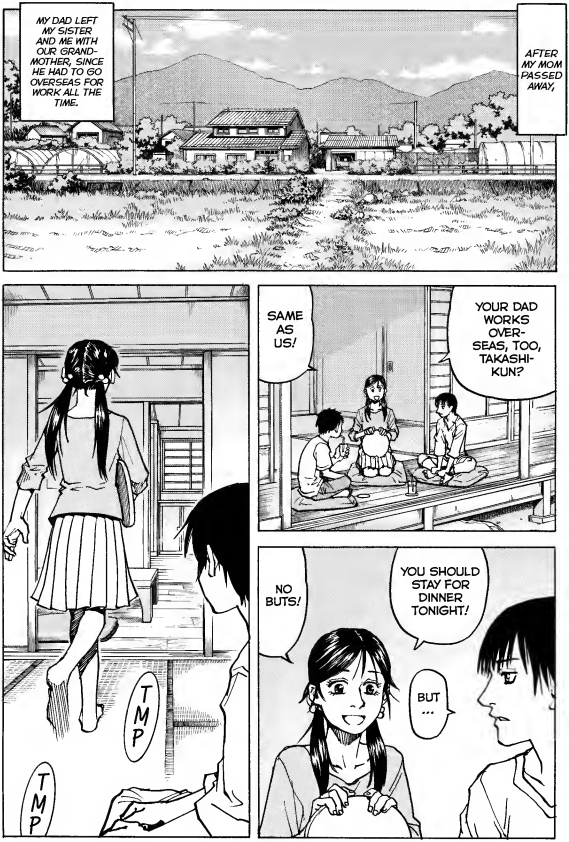
CH. 1

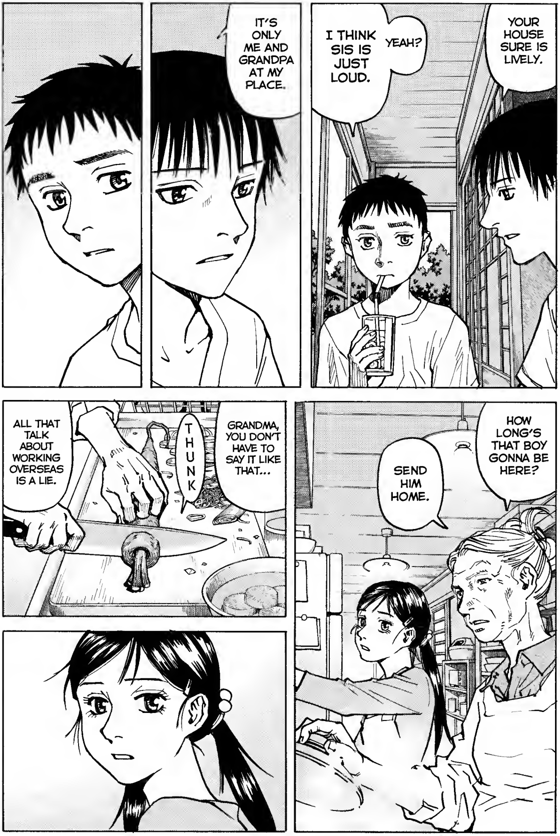
TAKASHI SEGAWA

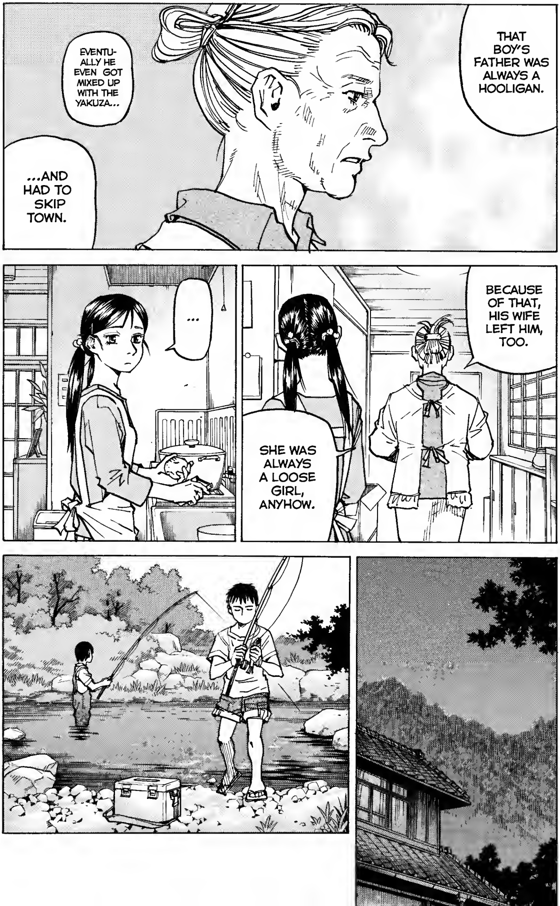
SHOOTO
SINCE 1985

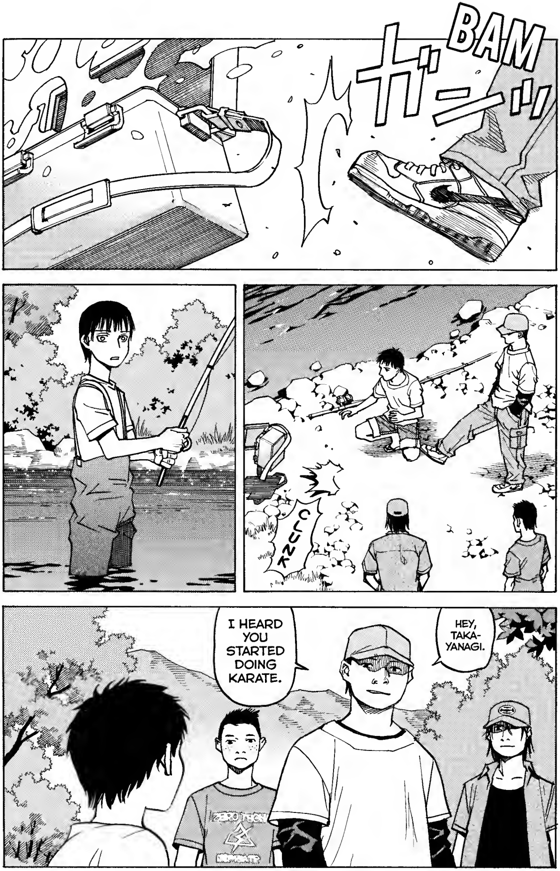

IN CLASS FOUR OF GRADE FIVE,
TAKASHI SEGAWA WAS SOMETHING OF AN OUTCAST.
HE BARELY TALKED,
AND HE HAD THIS STRANGE VIBE TO HIM.
HIS GRANDFATHER RAN A SMALL KARATE DOJO...
瀬川道場
...WHERE HE STUDIED TOO.
AFTER I TRANSFERRED SCHOOLS IN APRIL,
MY DAD MADE ME START TAKING LESSONS AT THAT DOJO.

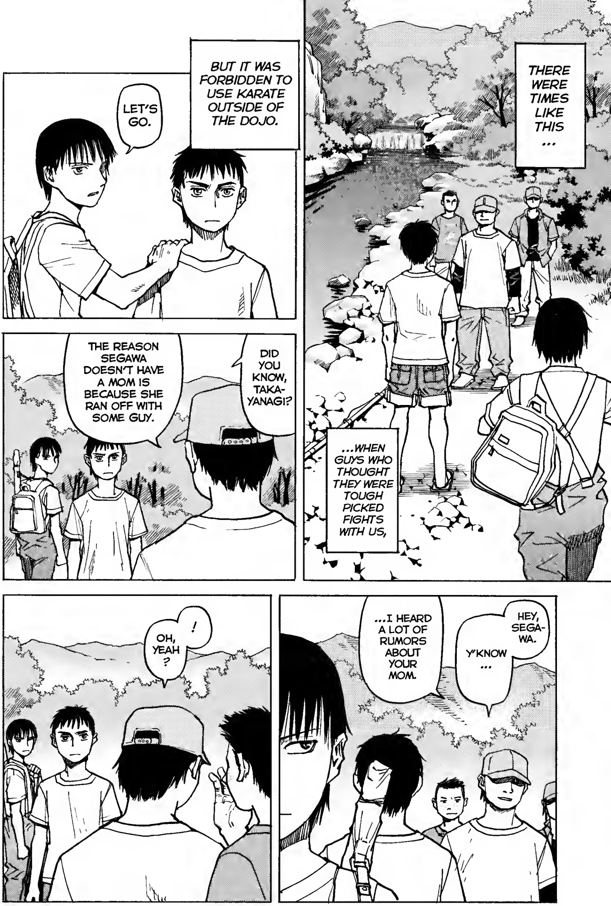

FOR SOME REASON, WE GOT ALONG.
THIS IS BRACKEN.
AND THIS IS OSTRICH FERN.
YOU CAN EAT THESE?
UH-HUH.
THINKING BACK ON IT,
THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN BECAUSE BOTH OF US DIDN'T HAVE OUR MOMS.

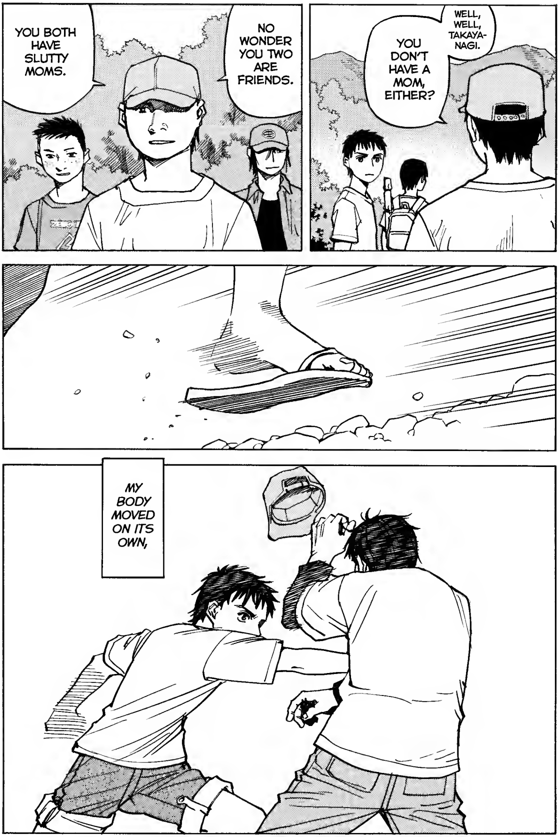

AFTER MY MOM PASSED AWAY,
MY DAD LEFT MY SISTER AND ME WITH OUR GRANDMOTHER, SINCE HE HAD TO GO OVERSEAS FOR WORK ALL THE TIME.
YOUR DAD WORKS OVERSEAS, TOO, TAKASHI-KUN?
SAME AS US!
YOU SHOULD STAY FOR DINNER TONIGHT!
BUT ...
NO BUTS!
TMP
TMP

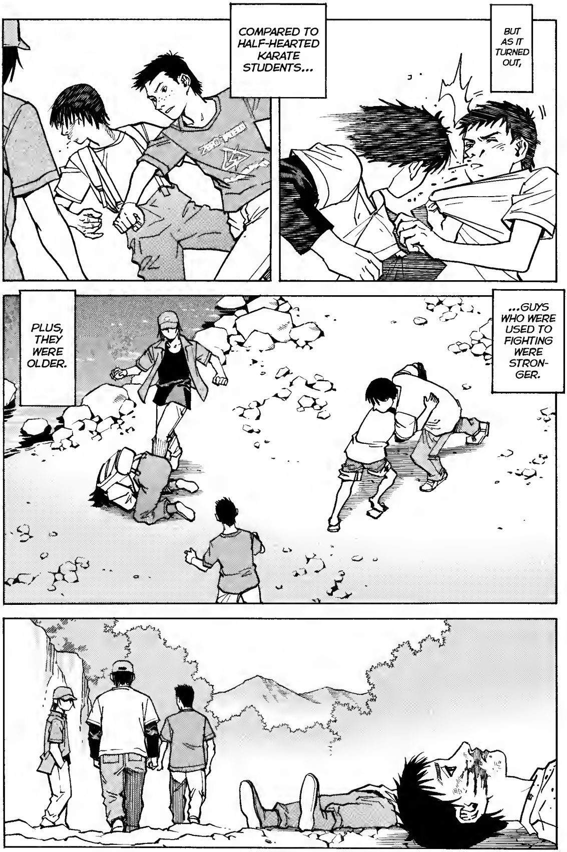

YOUR HOUSE SURE IS LIVELY.
YEAH?
I THINK SIS IS JUST LOUD.
IT'S ONLY ME AND GRANDPA AT MY PLACE.
HOW LONG'S THAT BOY GONNA BE HERE?
SEND HIM HOME.
GRANDMA, YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY IT LIKE THAT...
THUNK
ALL THAT TALK ABOUT WORKING OVERSEAS IS A LIE.

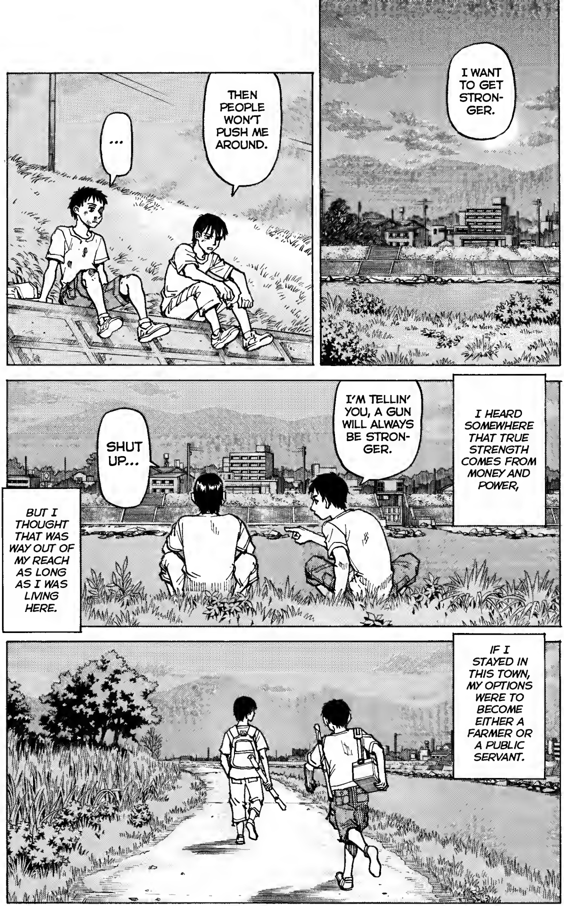

THAT BOY'S FATHER WAS ALWAYS A HOOLIGAN.
EVENTUALLY HE EVEN GOT MIXED UP WITH THE YAKUZA...
...AND HAD TO SKIP TOWN.
BECAUSE OF THAT, HIS WIFE LEFT HIM, TOO.
SHE WAS ALWAYS A LOOSE GIRL, ANYHOW.
...

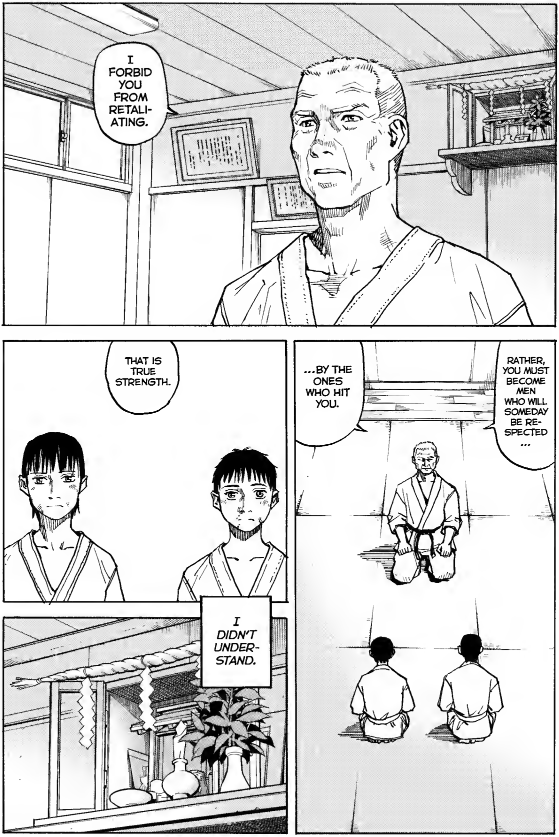

BAM
ガンッ
CLUNK
HEY, TAKA-YANAGI.
I HEARD YOU STARTED DOING KARATE.

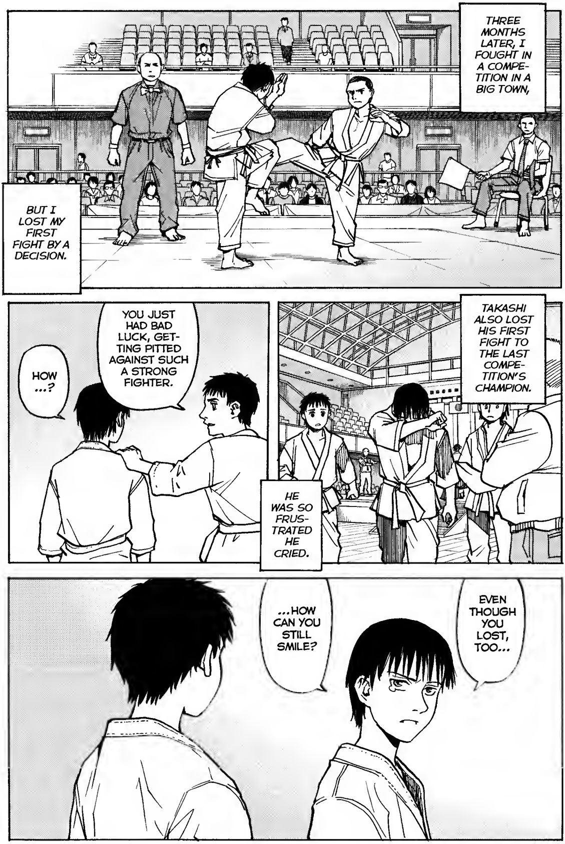

THERE WERE TIMES LIKE THIS ...
...WHEN GUYS WHO THOUGHT THEY WERE TOUGH PICKED FIGHTS WITH US,
BUT IT WAS FORBIDDEN TO USE KARATE OUTSIDE OF THE DOJO.
LET'S GO.
DID YOU KNOW, TAKAYANAGI?
THE REASON SEGAWA DOESN'T HAVE A MOM IS BECAUSE SHE RAN OFF WITH SOME GUY.
HEY, SEGAWA.
Y'KNOW ...
...I HEARD A LOT OF RUMORS ABOUT YOUR MOM.
!
OH, YEAH ?

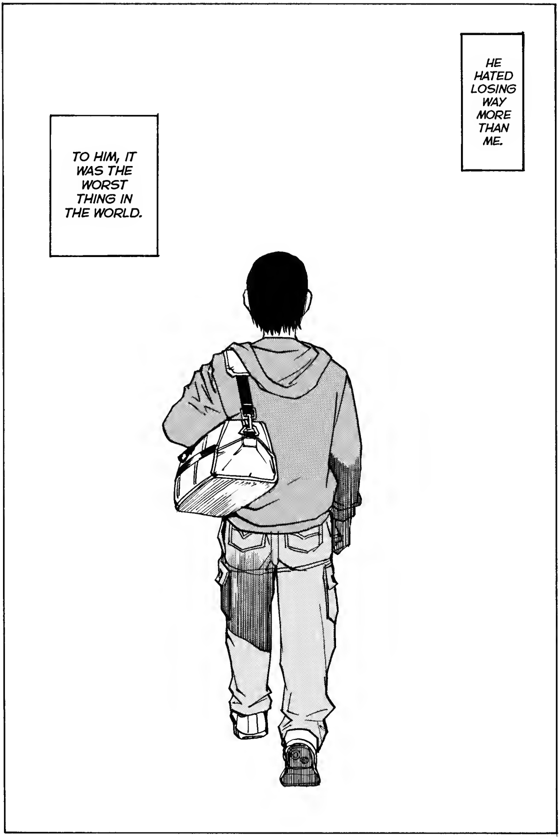

WELL, WELL, TAKAYANAGI.
YOU DON'T HAVE A MOM, EITHER?
NO WONDER YOU TWO ARE FRIENDS.
YOU BOTH HAVE SLUTTY MOMS.
MY BODY MOVED ON ITS OWN,

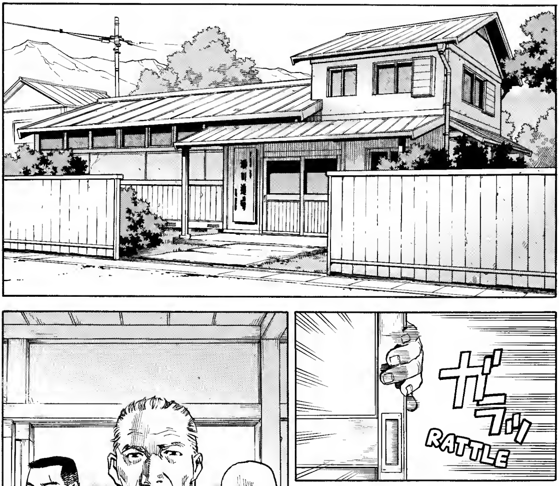

BUT AS IT TURNED OUT,
COMPARED TO HALF-HEARTED KARATE STUDENTS...
...GUYS WHO WERE USED TO FIGHTING WERE STRONGER.
PLUS, THEY WERE OLDER.

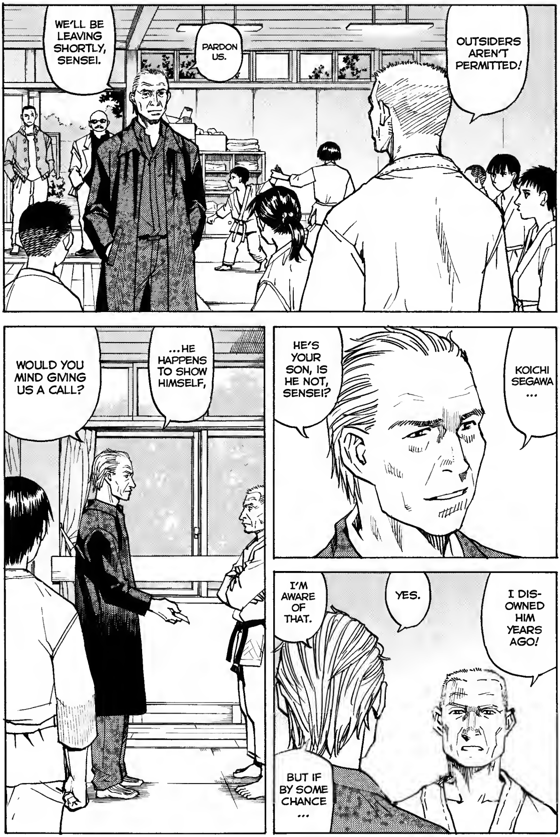

I WANT TO GET STRONGER.
THEN PEOPLE WON'T PUSH ME AROUND.
...
I HEARD SOMEWHERE THAT TRUE STRENGTH COMES FROM MONEY AND POWER,
I'M TELLIN' YOU, A GUN WILL ALWAYS BE STRONGER.
SHUT UP...
BUT I THOUGHT THAT WAS WAY OUT OF MY REACH AS LONG AS I WAS LIVING HERE.
IF I STAYED IN THIS TOWN, MY OPTIONS WERE TO BECOME EITHER A FARMER OR A PUBLIC SERVANT.

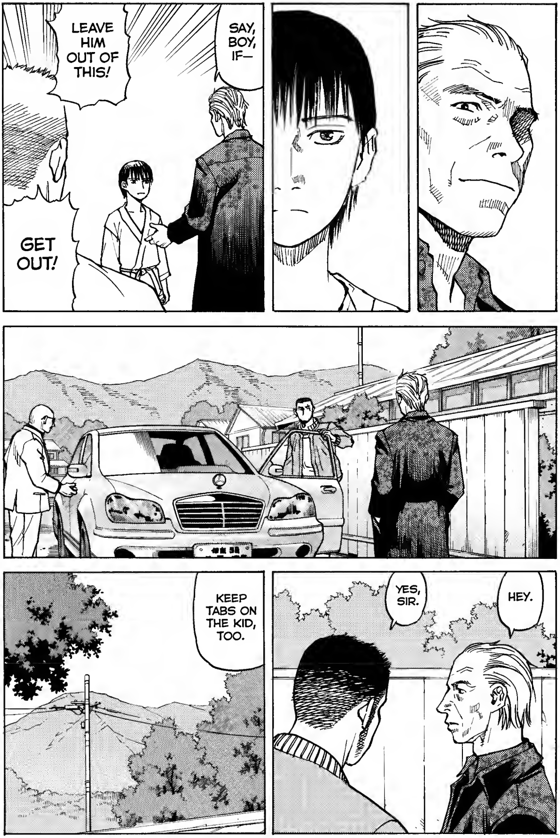

I FORBID YOU FROM RETALIATING.
RATHER, YOU MUST BECOME MEN WHO WILL SOMEDAY BE RESPECTED ...
...BY THE ONES WHO HIT YOU.
THAT IS TRUE STRENGTH.
I DIDN'T UNDERSTAND.

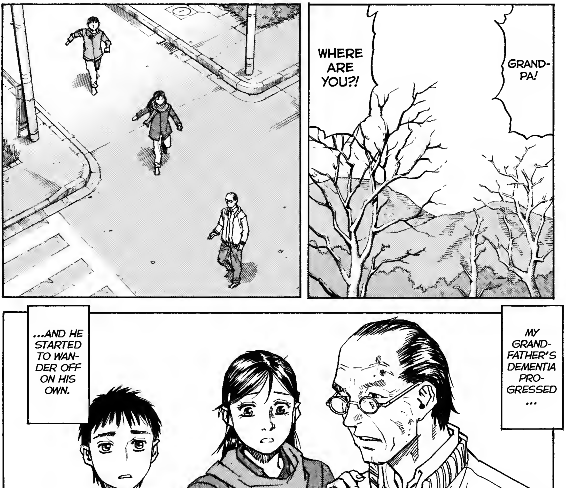

THREE MONTHS LATER, I FOUGHT IN A COMPETITION IN A BIG TOWN,
BUT I LOST MY FIRST FIGHT BY A DECISION.
TAKASHI ALSO LOST HIS FIRST FIGHT TO THE LAST COMPETITION'S CHAMPION.
HE WAS SO FRUSTRATED HE CRIED.
YOU JUST HAD BAD LUCK, GETTING PITTED AGAINST SUCH A STRONG FIGHTER.
HOW ...?
EVEN THOUGH YOU LOST, TOO...
...HOW CAN YOU STILL SMILE?

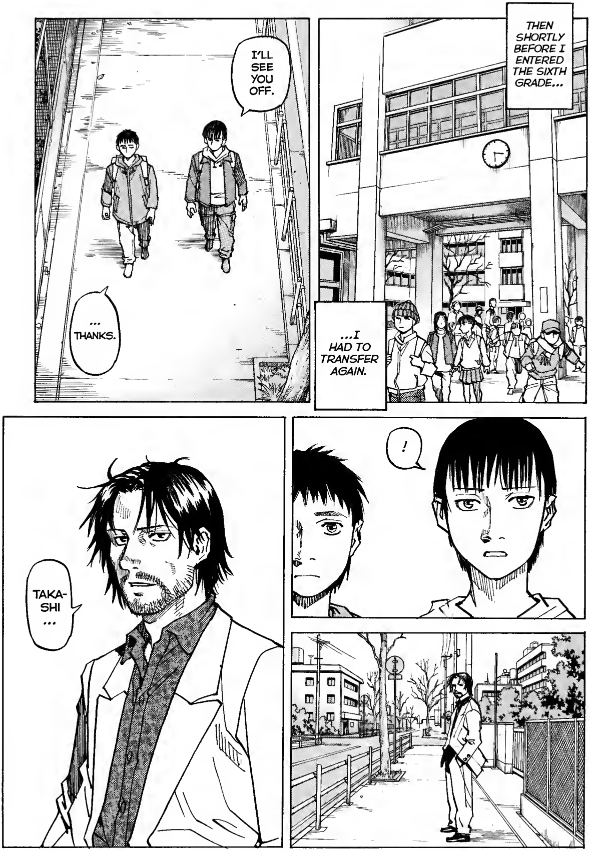

HE HATED LOSING WAY MORE THAN ME.
TO HIM, IT WAS THE WORST THING IN THE WORLD.

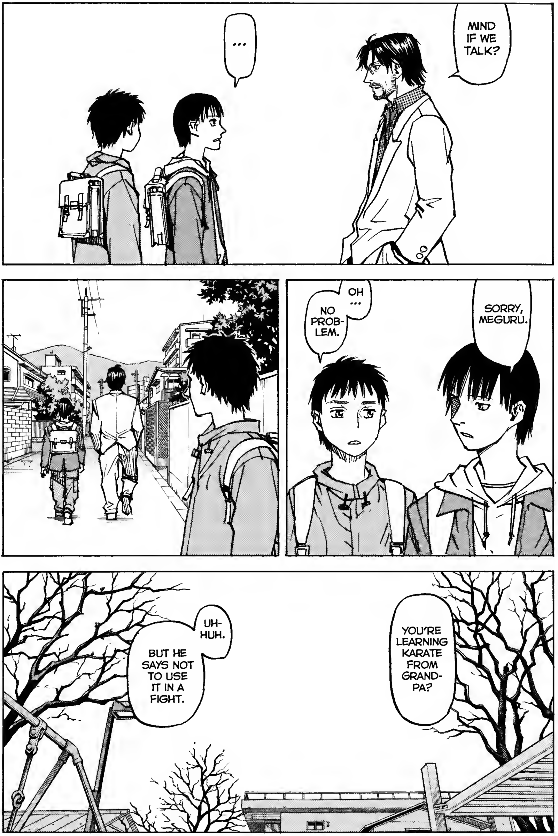

ガラッ
RATTLE

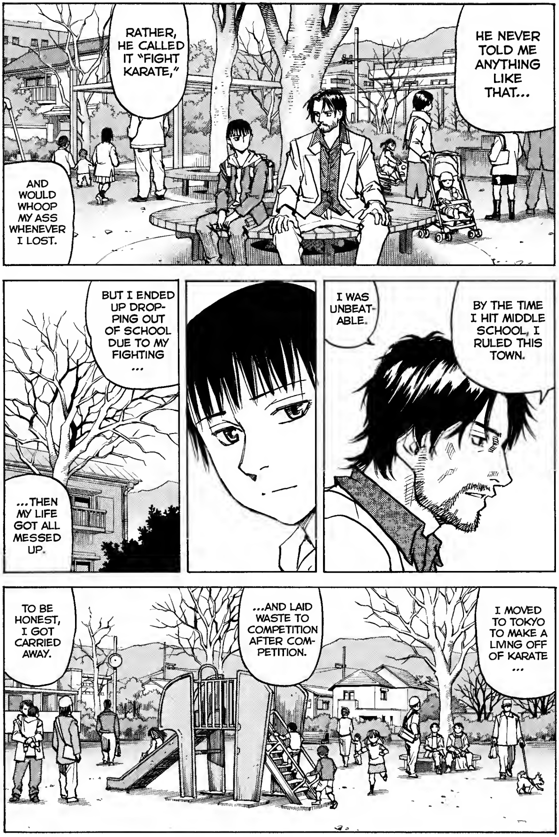

OUTSIDERS AREN'T PERMITTED!
PARDON US.
WE'LL BE LEAVING SHORTLY, SENSEI.
KOICHI SEGAWA...
HE'S YOUR SON, IS HE NOT, SENSEI?
I DISOWNED HIM YEARS AGO!
YES.
I'M AWARE OF THAT.
BUT IF BY SOME CHANCE...
...HE HAPPENS TO SHOW HIMSELF,
WOULD YOU MIND GIVING US A CALL?

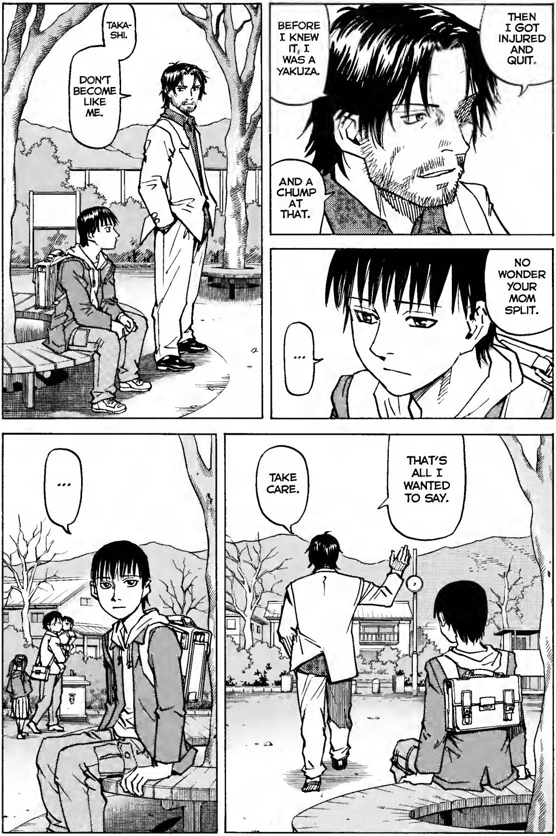

SAY, BOY, IF—
LEAVE HIM OUT OF THIS!
GET OUT!
HEY.
YES, SIR.
KEEP TABS ON THE KID, TOO.

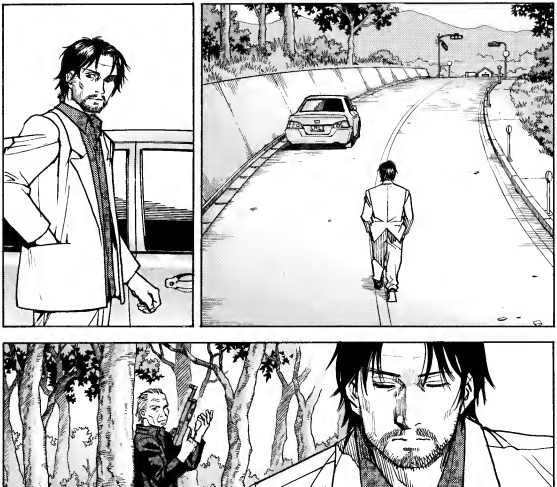

GRANDPA!
WHERE ARE YOU?!
MY GRANDFATHER'S DEMENTIA PROGRESSED...
...AND HE STARTED TO WANDER OFF ON HIS OWN.
A WEEK LATER,
HE FELL FROM A BRIDGE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT AND DIED.


THEN SHORTLY BEFORE I ENTERED THE SIXTH GRADE...
...I HAD TO TRANSFER AGAIN.
I'LL SEE YOU OFF.
... THANKS.
!
TAKA-SHI ...


MIND IF WE TALK?
...
SORRY, MEGURU.
OH ...
NO PROBLEM.
YOU'RE LEARNING KARATE FROM GRANDPA?
UH-HUH.
BUT HE SAYS NOT TO USE IT IN A FIGHT.


HE NEVER TOLD ME ANYTHING LIKE THAT...
RATHER, HE CALLED IT "FIGHT KARATE,"
AND WOULD WHOOP MY ASS WHENEVER I LOST.
BY THE TIME I HIT MIDDLE SCHOOL, I RULED THIS TOWN.
I WAS UNBEATABLE.
BUT I ENDED UP DROPPING OUT OF SCHOOL DUE TO MY FIGHTING ...
...THEN MY LIFE GOT ALL MESSED UP.
I MOVED TO TOKYO TO MAKE A LIVING OFF OF KARATE ...
...AND LAID WASTE TO COMPETITION AFTER COMPETITION.
TO BE HONEST, I GOT CARRIED AWAY.


BEFORE I KNEW IT, I WAS A YAKUZA.
THEN I GOT INJURED AND QUIT.
AND A CHUMP AT THAT.
NO WONDER YOUR MOM SPLIT.
...
TAKASHI.
DON'T BECOME LIKE ME.
THAT'S ALL I WANTED TO SAY.
TAKE CARE.
...


FTMP
ト
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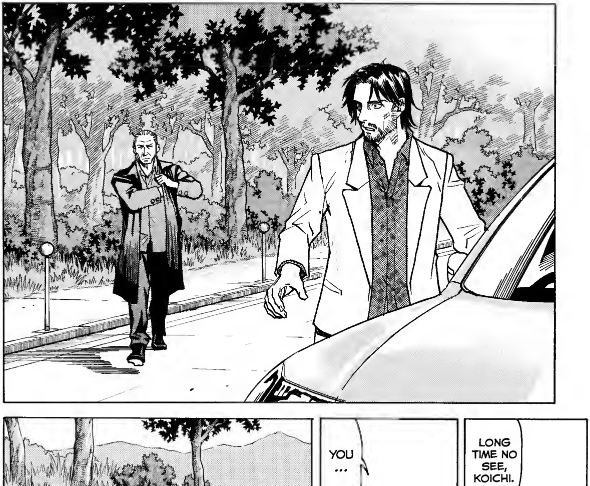
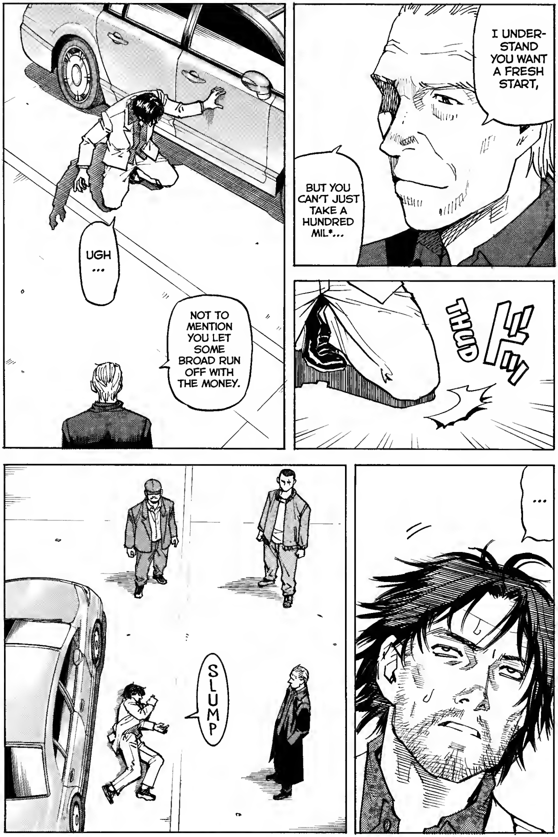
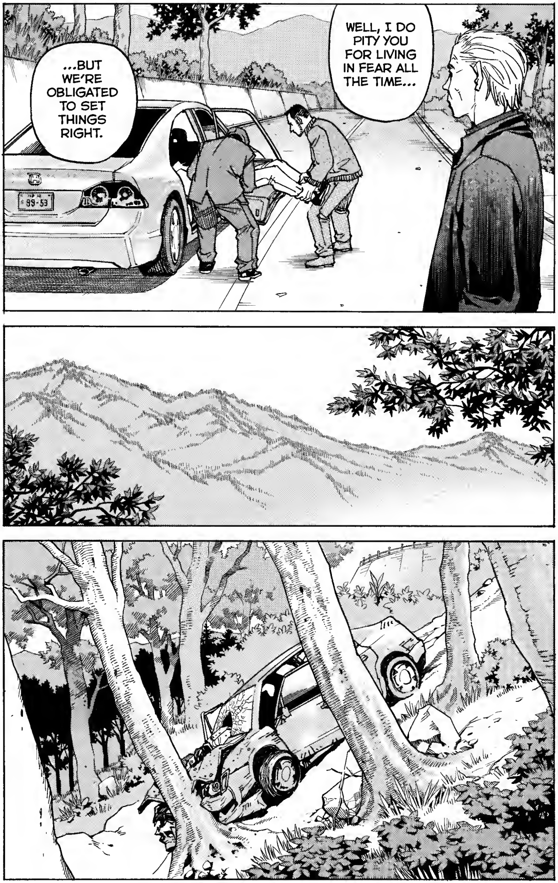
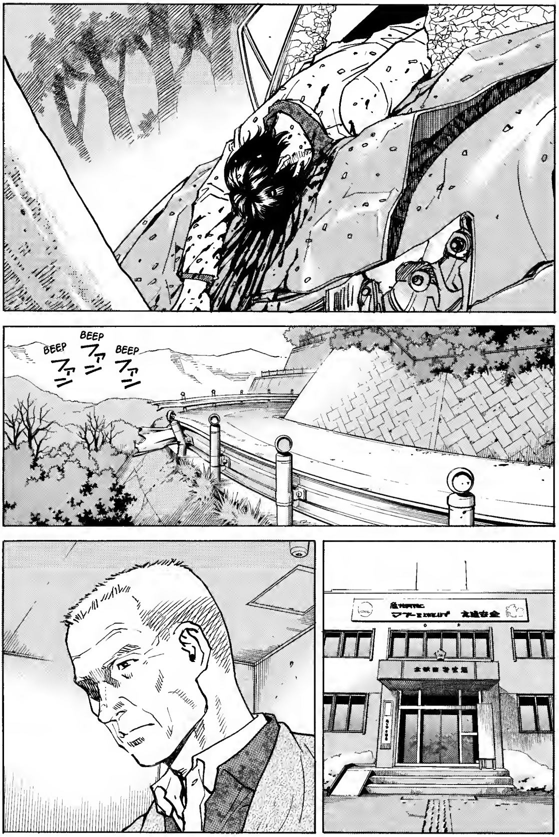
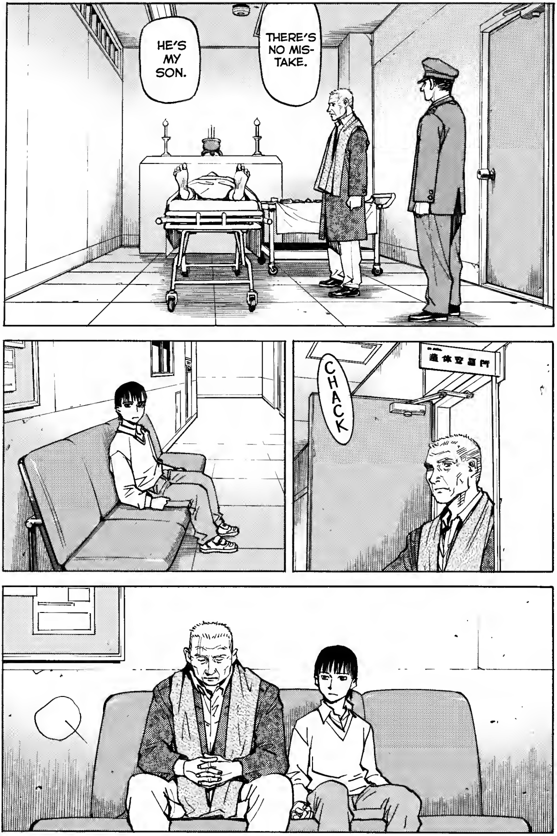

LONG TIME NO SEE, KOICHI.
YOU ...
!
SKFF

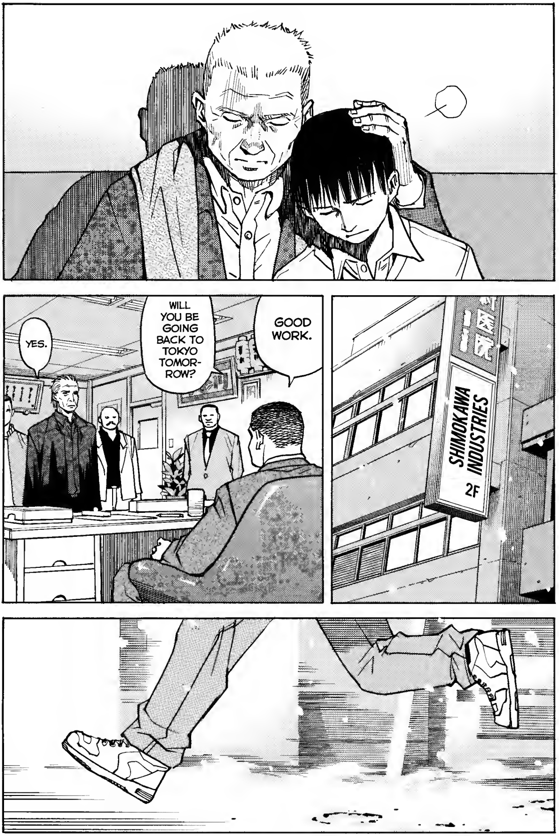

I UNDERSTAND YOU WANT A FRESH START,
BUT YOU CAN'T JUST TAKE A HUNDRED MIL*...
UGH...
NOT TO MENTION YOU LET SOME BROAD RUN OFF WITH THE MONEY.
THUD
ドッ
...
SLUMP

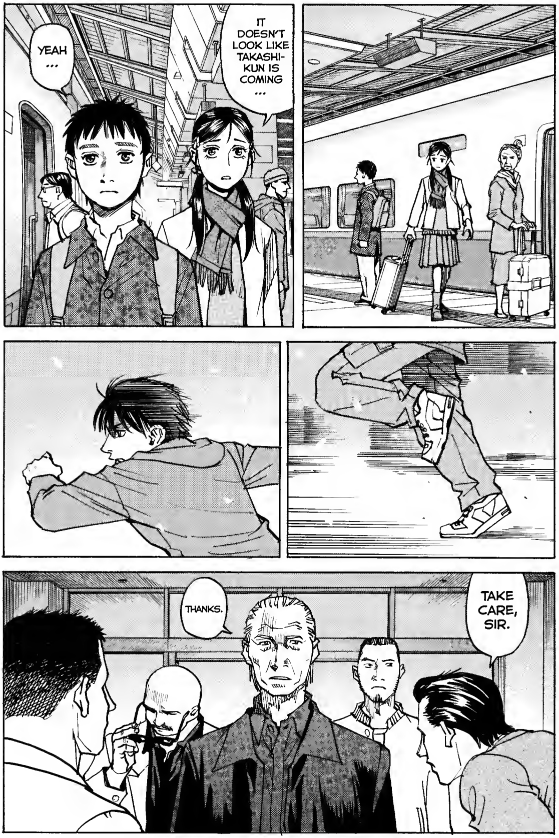
*ROUGHLY 1 MILLION USD

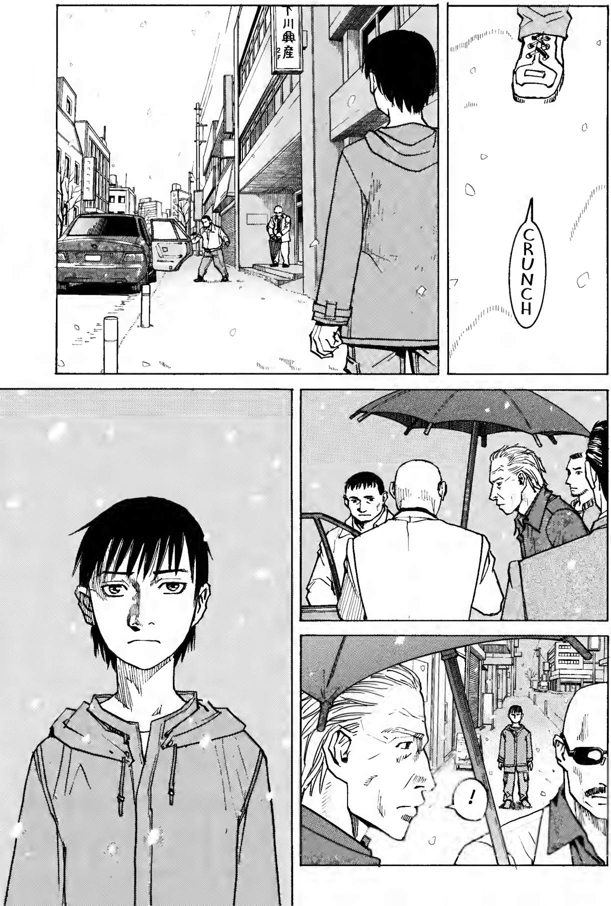

WELL, I DO PITY YOU FOR LIVING IN FEAR ALL THE TIME...
...BUT WE'RE OBLIGATED TO SET THINGS RIGHT.
89-53

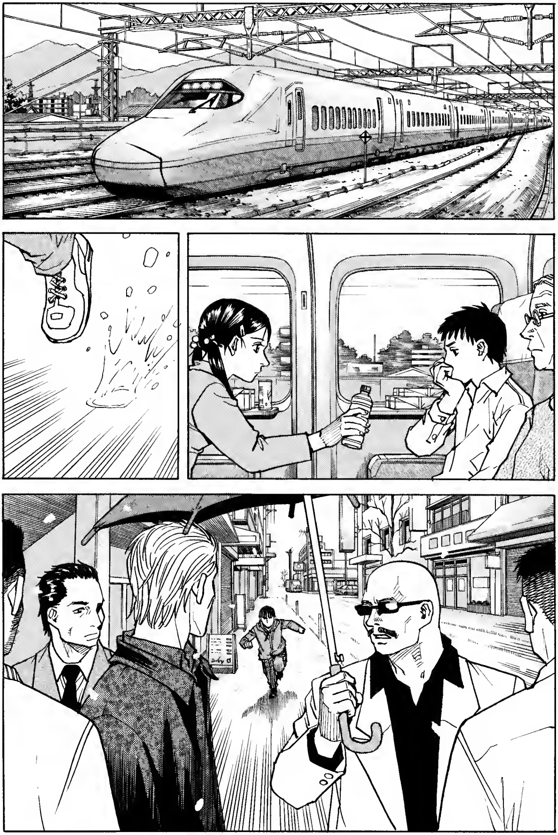

BEEP
ファン
BEEP
ファン
BEEP
ファン
交通安全

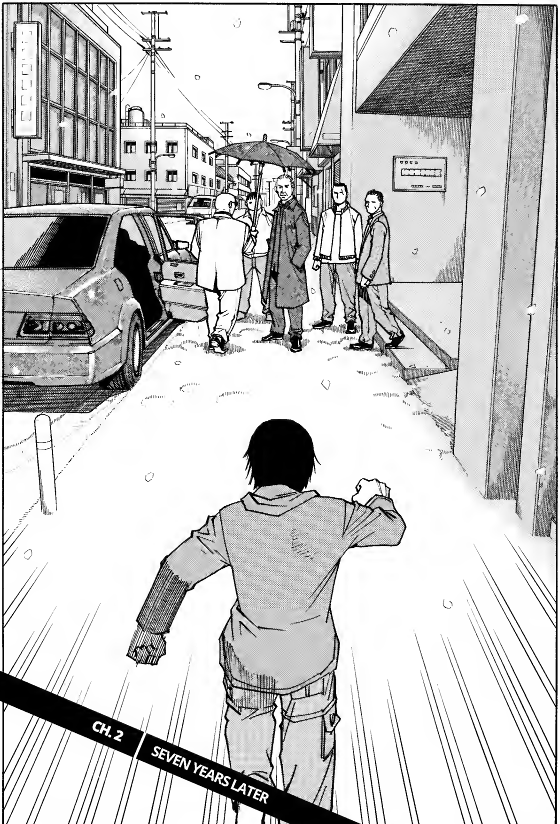

THERE'S NO MISTAKE.
HE'S MY SON.
遺体安置所
CHACK


SHIMOKAWA INDUSTRIES
2F
GOOD WORK.
WILL YOU BE GOING BACK TO TOKYO TOMORROW?
YES.


IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE TAKASHI-KUN IS COMING ...
YEAH ...
TAKE CARE, SIR.
THANKS.

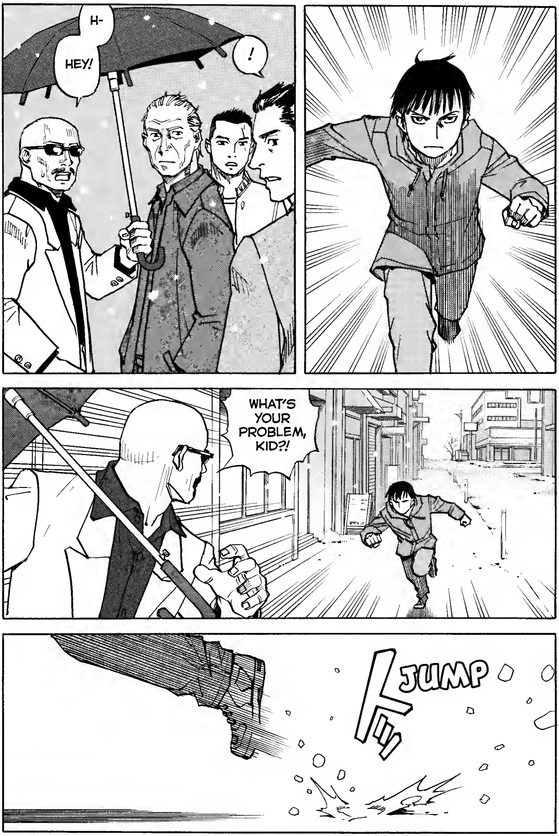

CRUNCH
下川典産 2F
!

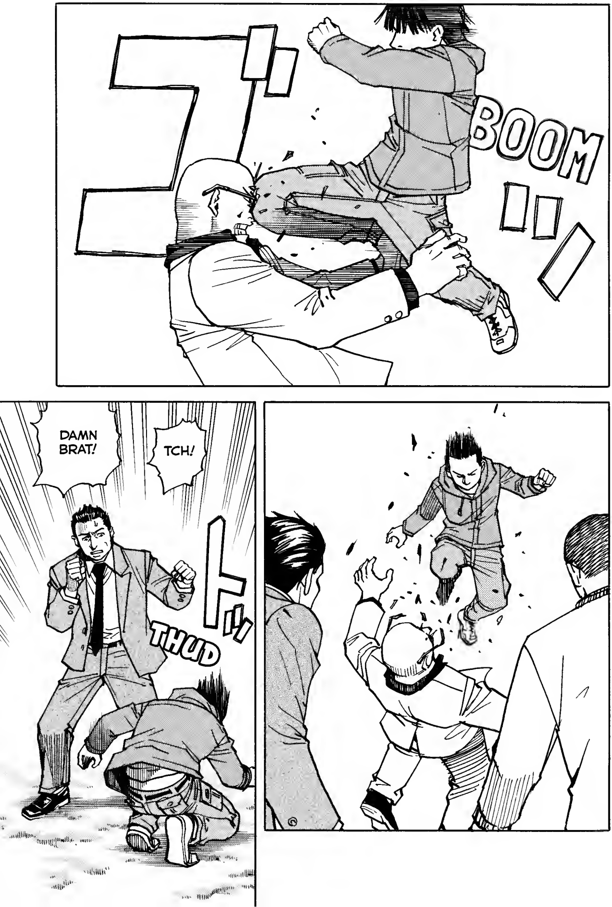


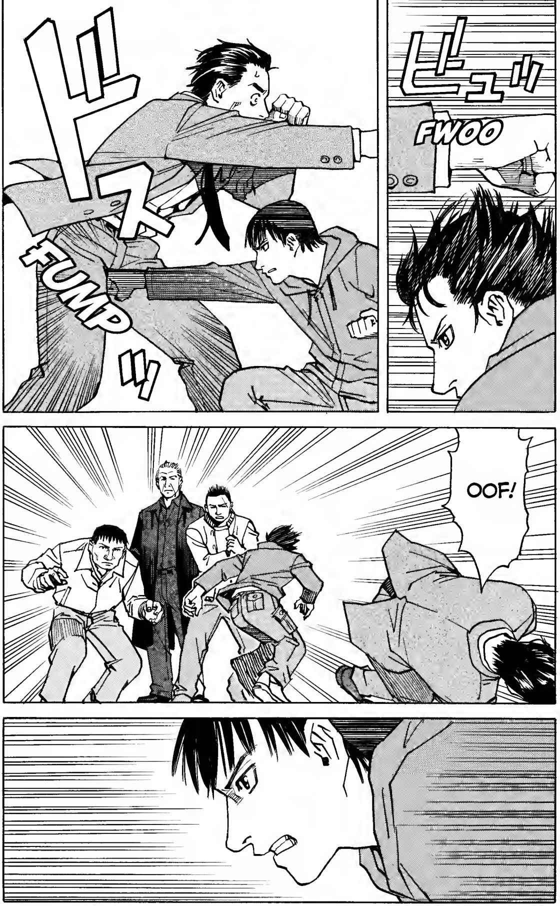


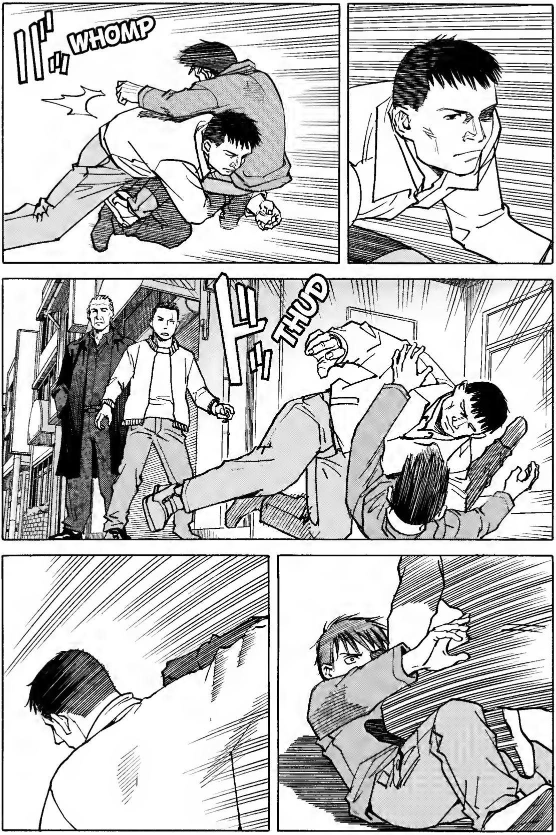
CH. 2

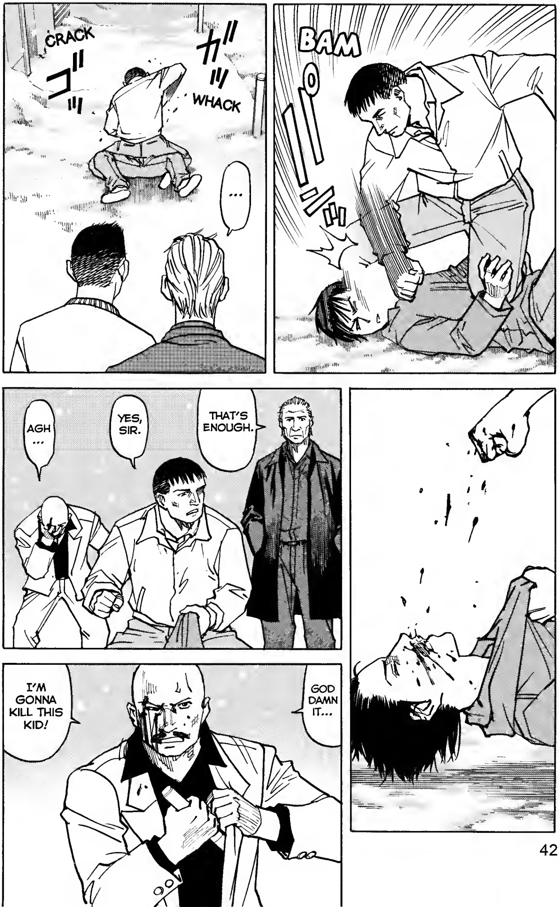
SEVEN YEARS LATER

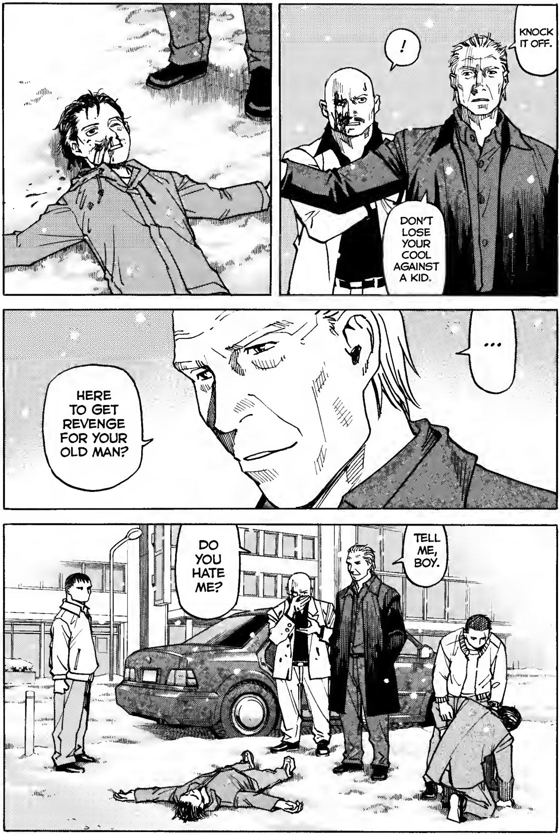

H-
HEY!
!
WHAT'S YOUR PROBLEM, KID?!
JUMP

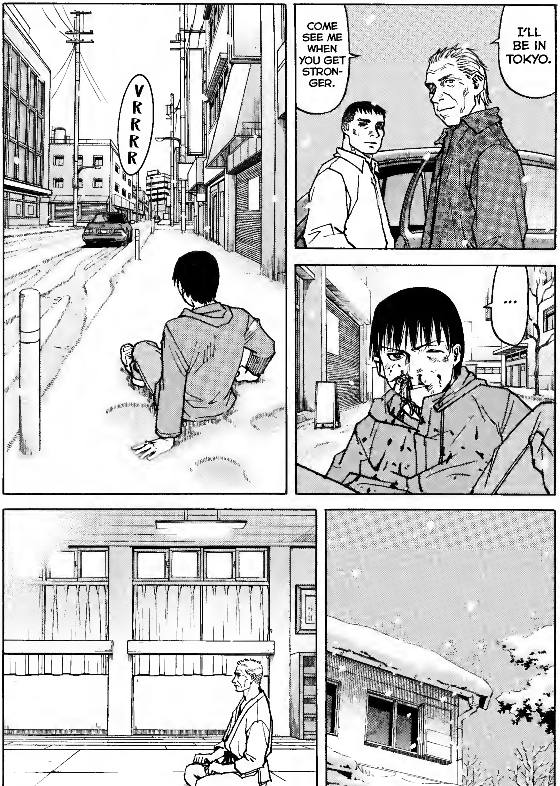

ゴッ
BOOM
TCH!
DAMN BRAT!
ドッ
THUD

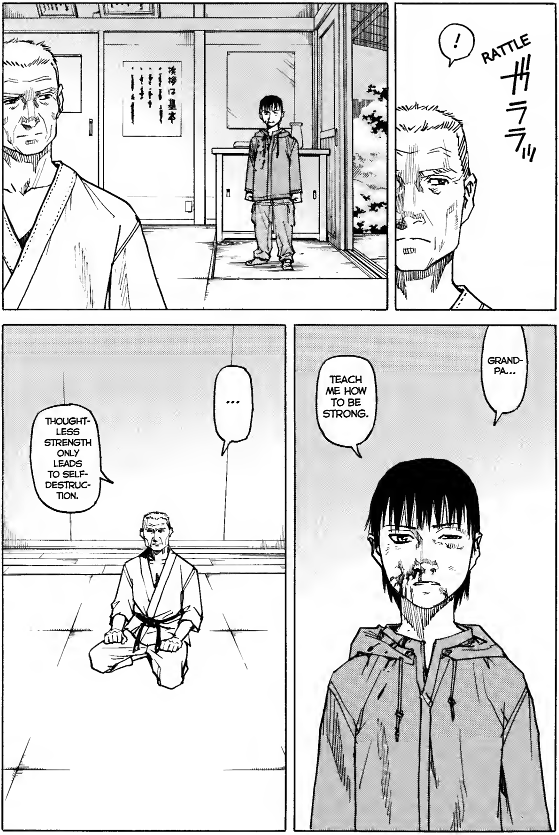

ビュッ
FWOO
ドスッ
FUMP
OOF!

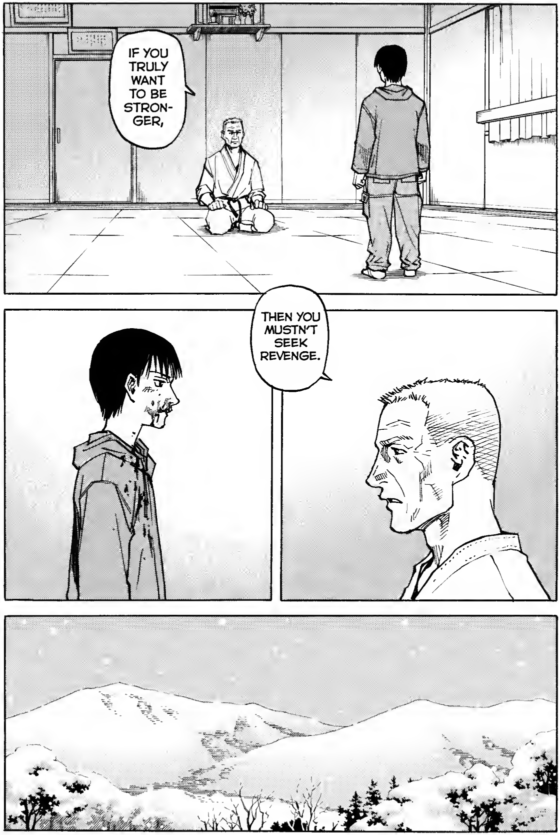

WHOMP
THUD

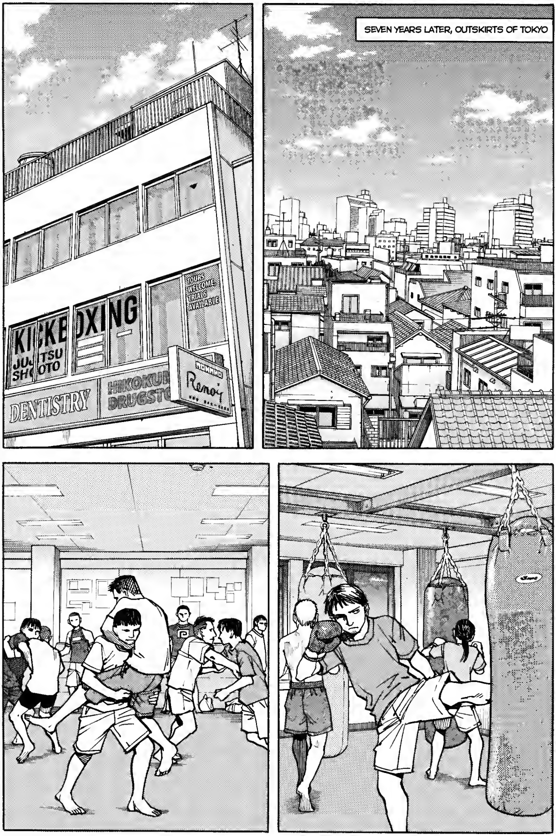

BAM
パーン
CRACK
ゴッ
ガッ
WHACK
...
THAT'S ENOUGH.
YES, SIR.
AGH ...
GOD DAMN IT...
I'M GONNA KILL THIS KID!

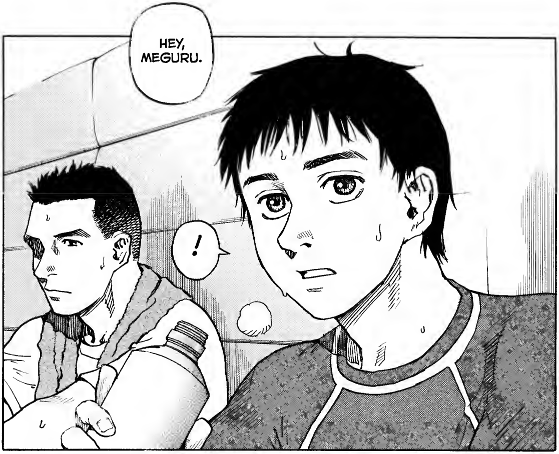

KNOCK IT OFF.
!
DON'T LOSE YOUR COOL AGAINST A KID.
...
HERE TO GET REVENGE FOR YOUR OLD MAN?
TELL ME, BOY.
DO YOU HATE ME?

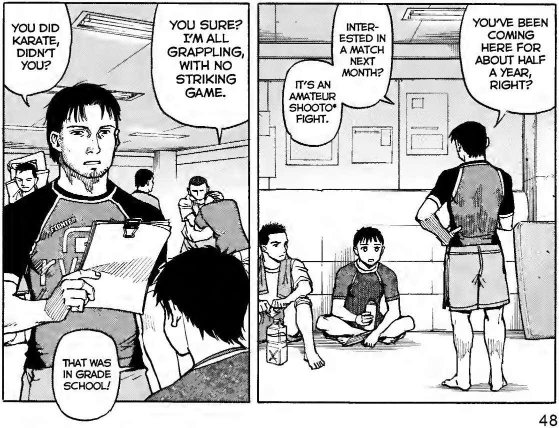

I'LL BE IN TOKYO.
COME SEE ME WHEN YOU GET STRONGER.
...
VRRRR


!
RATTLE
ガラララッ
挨拶は基本
GRANDPA...
TEACH ME HOW TO BE STRONG.
...
THOUGHTLESS STRENGTH ONLY LEADS TO SELF-DESTRUCTION.

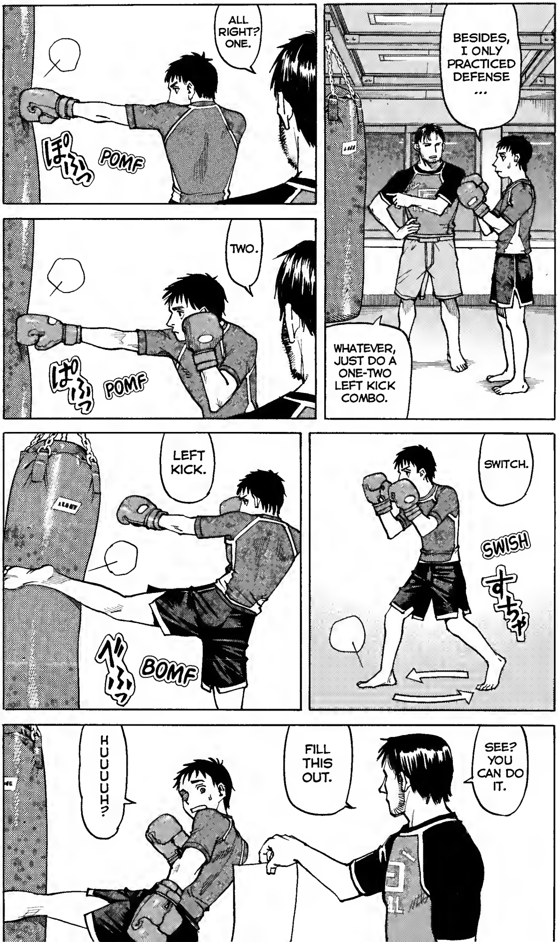

IF YOU TRULY WANT TO BE STRONGER,
THEN YOU MUSTN'T SEEK REVENGE.

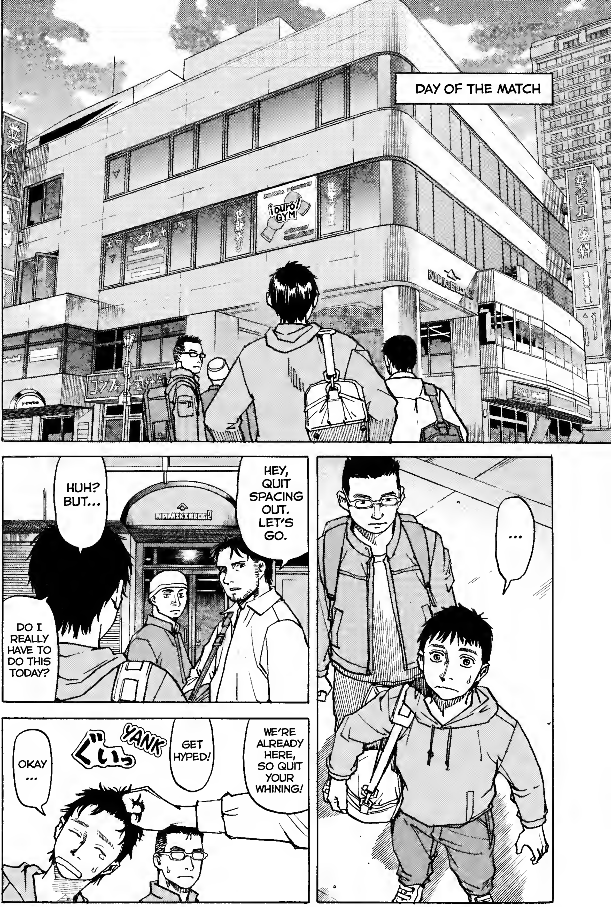

SEVEN YEARS LATER, OUTSKIRTS OF TOKYO
KICKBOXING
JU TSU
SH OTO
TOURS WELCOME, TRIALS AVAILABLE
DENTISTRY
HIKOKUR
DRUGST
Renoir

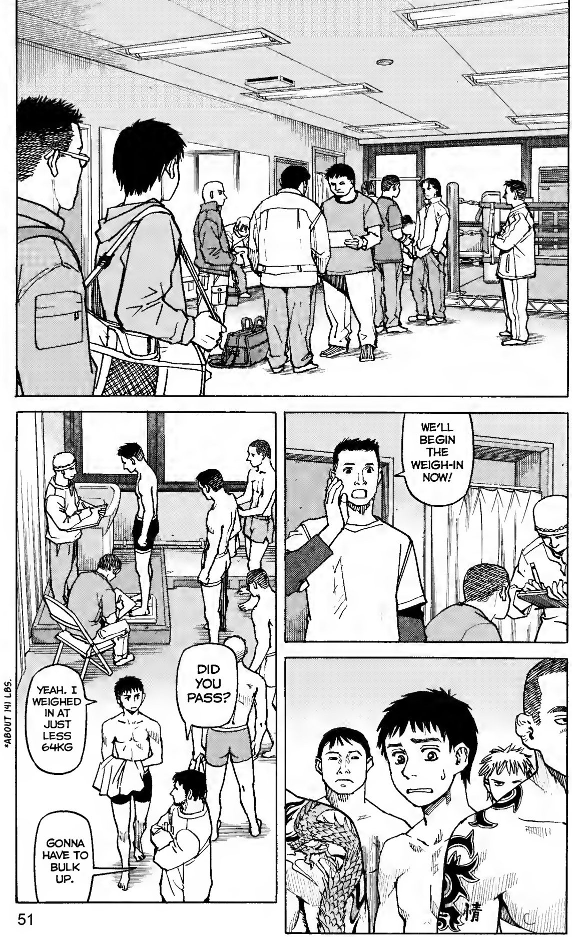


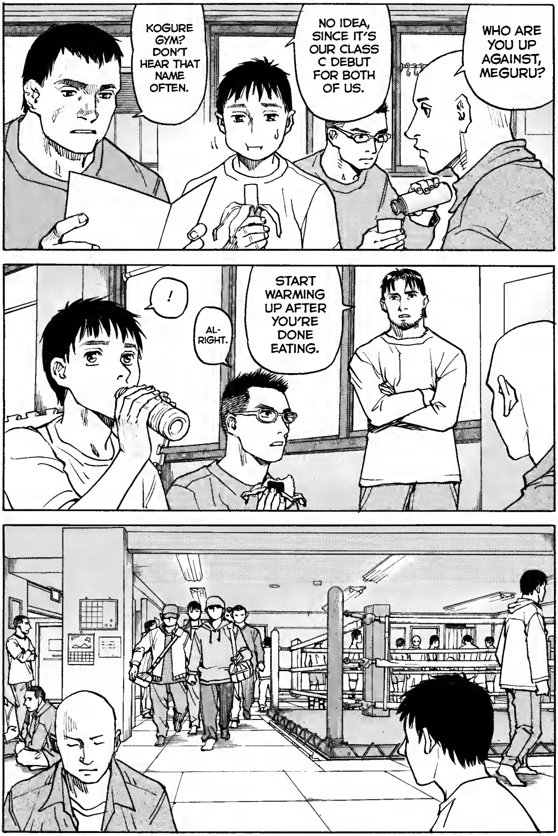

YOU'VE BEEN COMING HERE FOR ABOUT HALF A YEAR, RIGHT?
INTER-ESTED IN A MATCH NEXT MONTH?
IT'S AN AMATEUR SHOOTO* FIGHT.
YOU SURE? I'M ALL GRAPPLING, WITH NO STRIKING GAME.
YOU DID KARATE, DIDN'T YOU?
THAT WAS IN GRADE SCHOOL!
FIGHTER

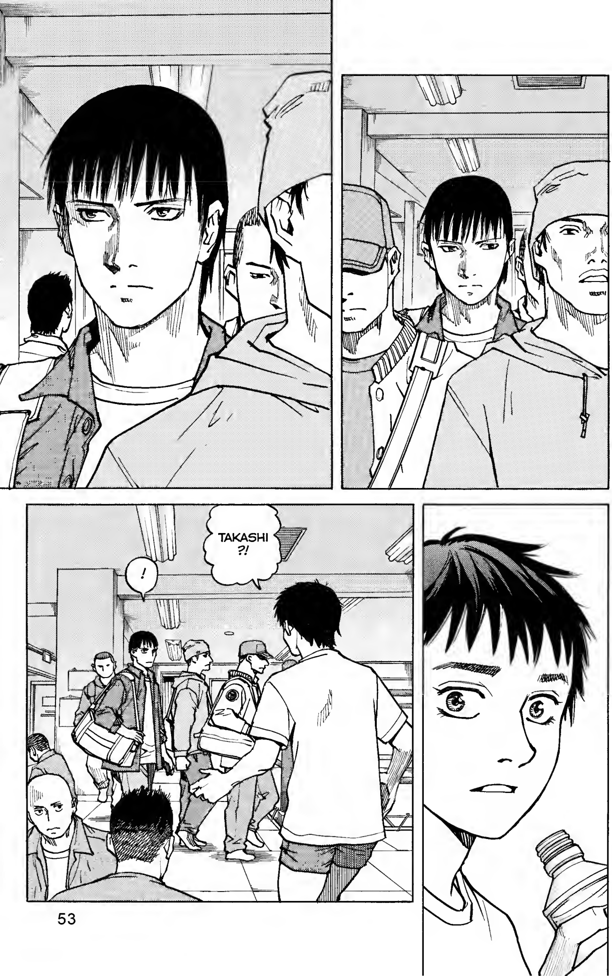
*A JAPANESE MIXED MARTIAL ARTS ORGANIZATION FORMED IN 1986

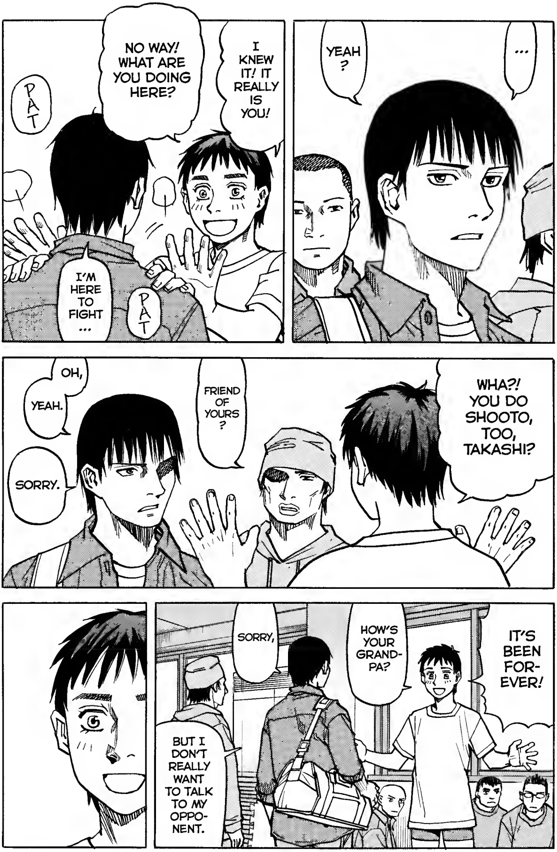

BESIDES, I ONLY PRACTICED DEFENSE ...
WHATEVER, JUST DO A ONE-TWO LEFT KICK COMBO.
ALL RIGHT? ONE.
ぽふっ
POMF
TWO.
ぽふっ
POMF
SWITCH.
SWISH
すちゃ
LEFT KICK.
ぺふっ
BOMF
SEE? YOU CAN DO IT.
FILL THIS OUT.
HUUUUH?

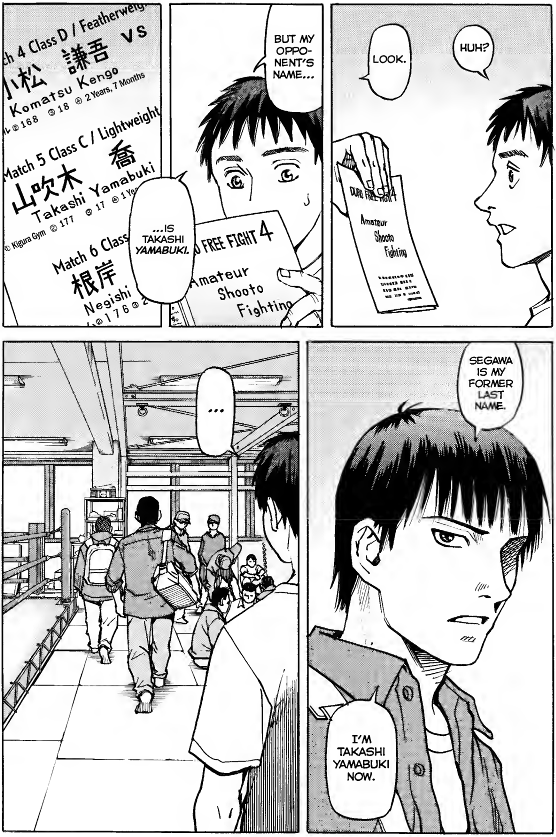

DAY OF THE MATCH
...
HEY, QUIT SPACING OUT. LET'S GO.
HUH? BUT...
DO I REALLY HAVE TO DO THIS TODAY?
WE'RE ALREADY HERE, SO QUIT YOUR WHINING!
GET HYPED!
YANK
ぐいっ
OKAY ...

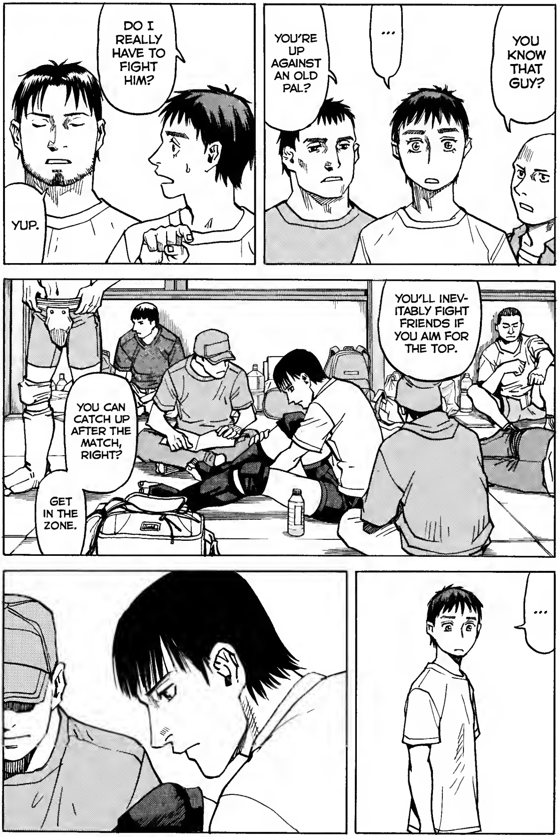

WE'LL BEGIN THE WEIGH-IN NOW!
DID YOU PASS?
YEAH. I WEIGHED IN AT JUST LESS 64KG
GONNA HAVE TO BULK UP.
*ABOUT 141 LBS.
情

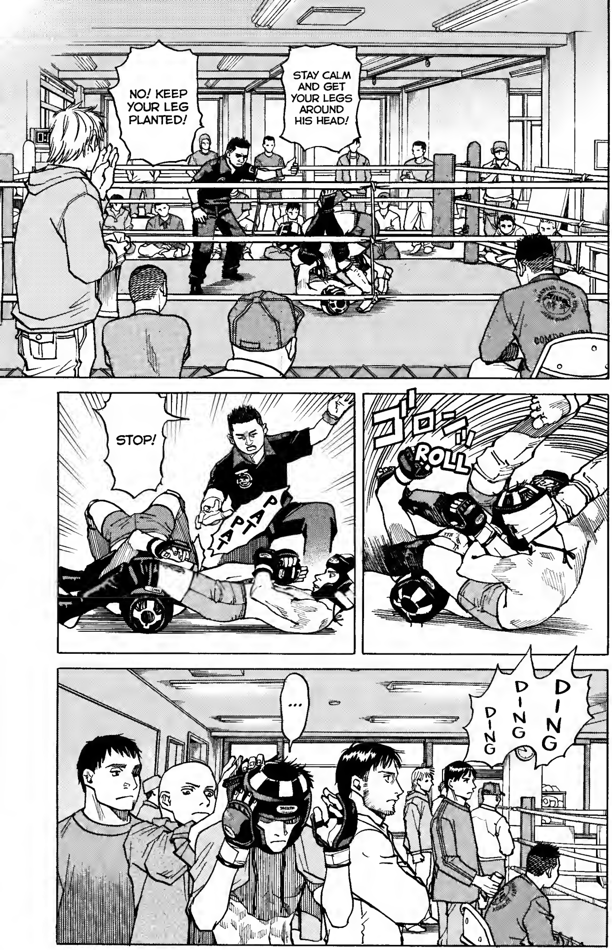

WHO ARE YOU UP AGAINST, MEGURU?
NO IDEA, SINCE IT'S OUR CLASS C DEBUT FOR BOTH OF US.
KOGURE GYM? DON'T HEAR THAT NAME OFTEN.
START WARMING UP AFTER YOU'RE DONE EATING.
ALRIGHT.
!

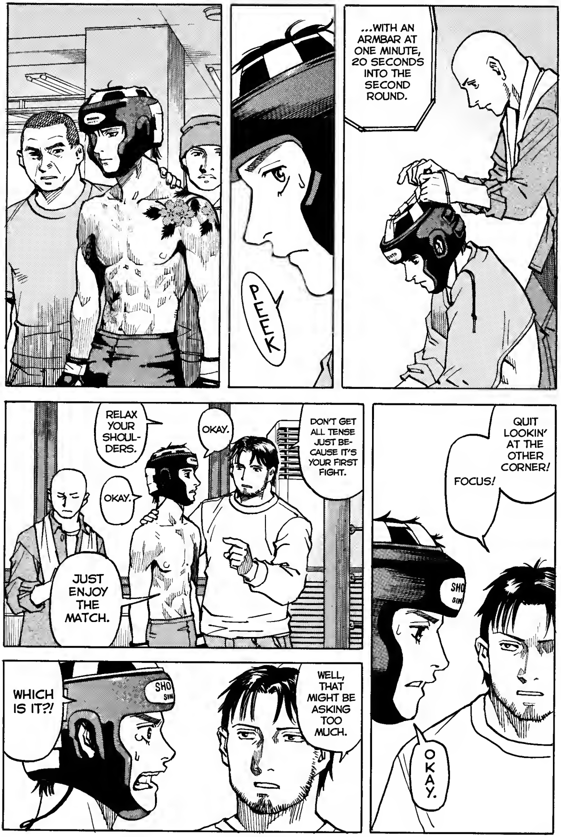

TAKASHI ?!
!

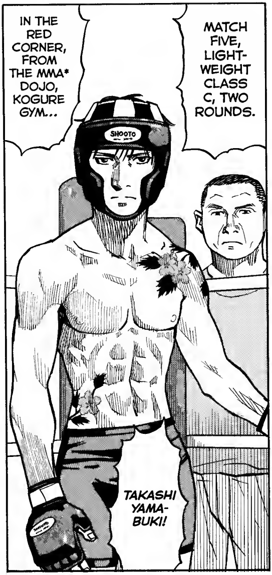

...
YEAH?
I KNEW IT! IT REALLY IS YOU!
NO WAY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
PAT
I'M HERE TO FIGHT...
PAT
WHA?! YOU DO SHOOTO, TOO, TAKASHI?
FRIEND OF YOURS?
OH, YEAH.
SORRY.
IT'S BEEN FOREVER!
HOW'S YOUR GRANDPA?
SORRY,
BUT I DON'T REALLY WANT TO TALK TO MY OPPONENT.

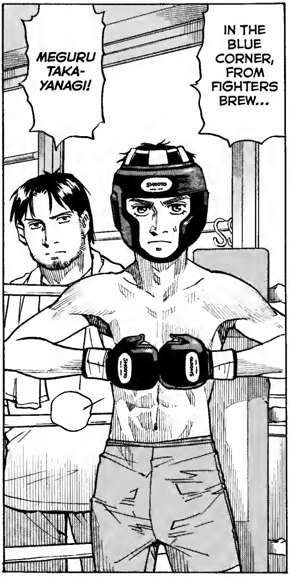

ch 4 Class D / Featherweig
VS
小松 謙吾
Komatsu Kengo
②168 ③18 ④ 2 Years, 7 Months
Match 5 Class C / Lightweight
山吹木 喬
Takashi Yamabuki
① Kigura Gym ② 177 ③ 17 ④ 1 Ye
Match 6 Class
根岸
Negishi
②176
BUT MY OPPONENT'S NAME...
...IS TAKASHI *YAMABUKI.*
FREE FIGHT 4
Amateur Shooto Fighting
LOOK.
HUH?
DURO FREE FIGHT 4
Amateur Shooto Fighting
...
SEGAWA IS MY FORMER LAST NAME.
I'M TAKASHI YAMABUKI NOW.

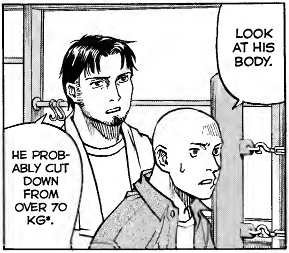

DO I REALLY HAVE TO FIGHT HIM?
YUP.
YOU'RE UP AGAINST AN OLD PAL?
...
YOU KNOW THAT GUY?
YOU'LL INEVITABLY FIGHT FRIENDS IF YOU AIM FOR THE TOP.
YOU CAN CATCH UP AFTER THE MATCH, RIGHT?
GET IN THE ZONE.
...

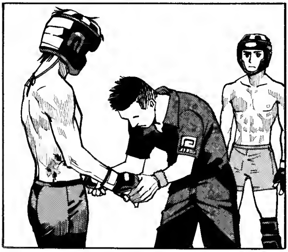

STAY CALM AND GET YOUR LEGS AROUND HIS HEAD!
NO! KEEP YOUR LEG PLANTED!
ゴローッ
ROLL
STOP!
PAT PAT
DING DING DING
...


...WITH AN ARMBAR AT ONE MINUTE, 20 SECONDS INTO THE SECOND ROUND.
PEEK
QUIT LOOKIN' AT THE OTHER CORNER!
FOCUS!
OKAY.
DON'T GET ALL TENSE JUST BECAUSE IT'S YOUR FIRST FIGHT.
OKAY.
RELAX YOUR SHOULDERS.
OKAY.
JUST ENJOY THE MATCH.
WELL, THAT MIGHT BE ASKING TOO MUCH.
WHICH IS IT?!


MATCH FIVE, LIGHT-WEIGHT CLASS C, TWO ROUNDS.
IN THE RED CORNER, FROM THE MMA* DOJO, KOGURE GYM...
TAKASHI YAMABUKI!


IN THE BLUE CORNER, FROM FIGHTERS BREW...
MEGURU TAKAYANAGI!


LOOK AT HIS BODY.
HE PROBABLY CUT DOWN FROM OVER 70 KG*.



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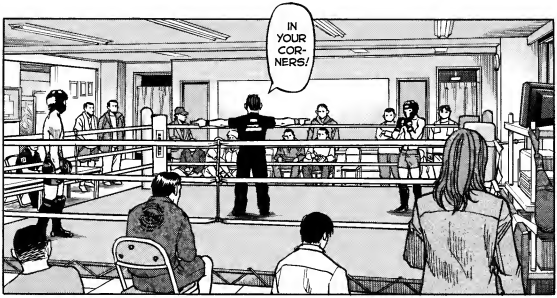
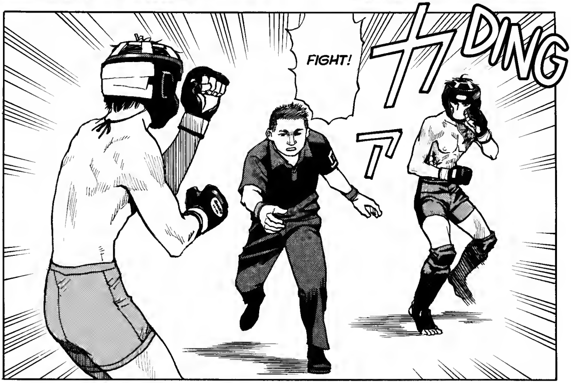
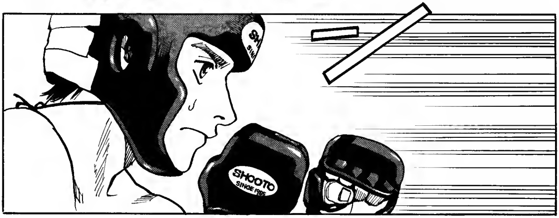
*MIXED MARTIAL ARTS

*ABOUT 154 LBS.

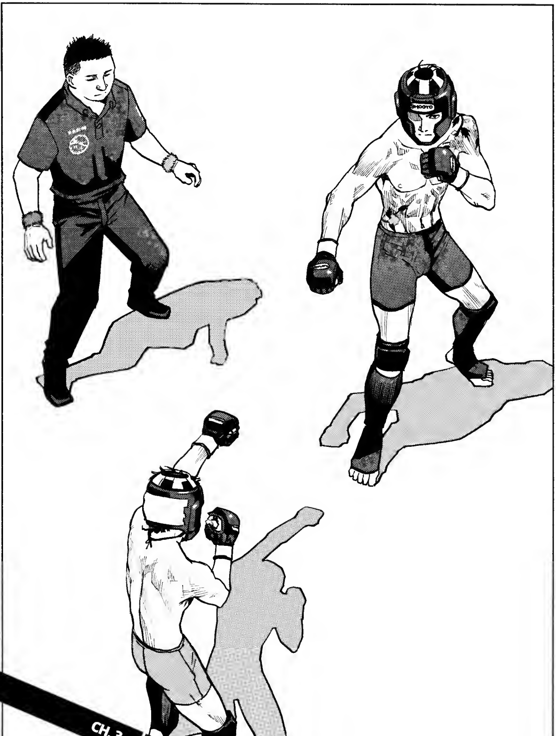

IN YOUR CORNERS!

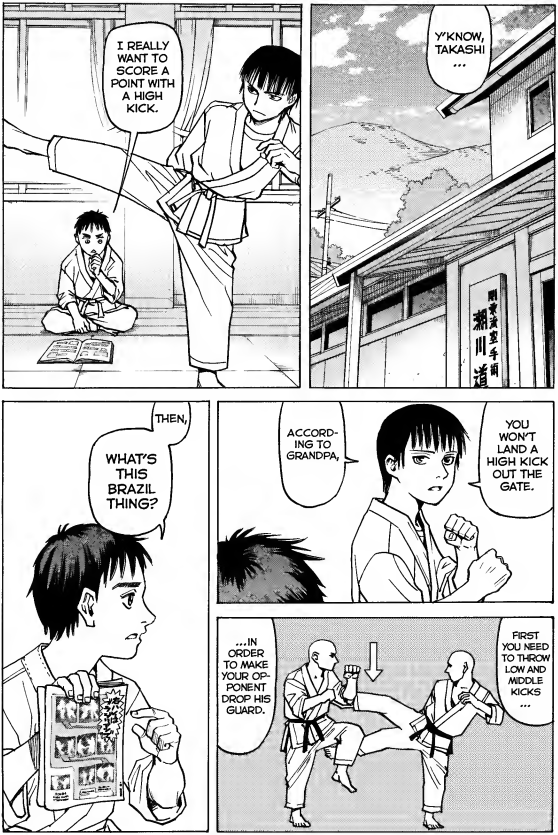

カァ
DING
FIGHT!


SHOOTO SINCE 1985

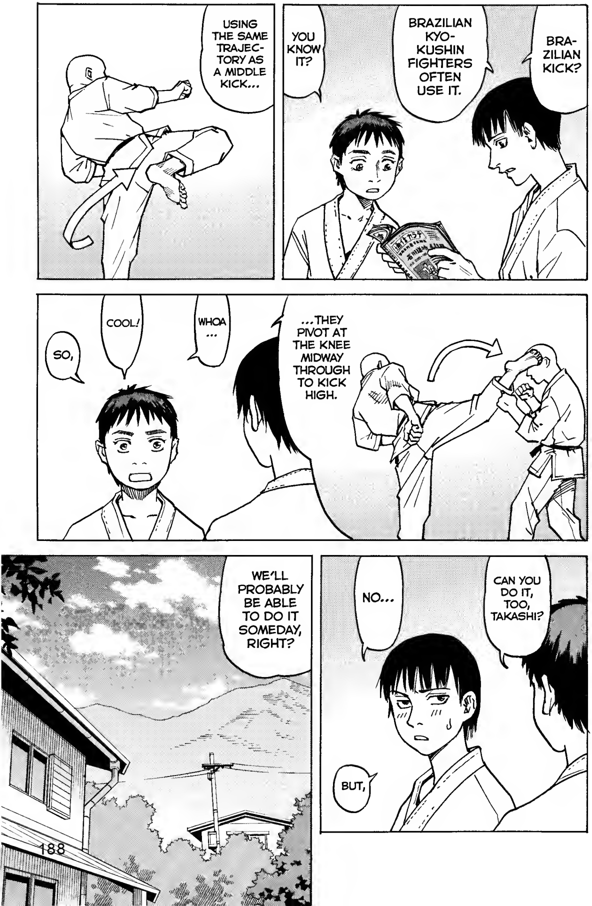
CH. 3

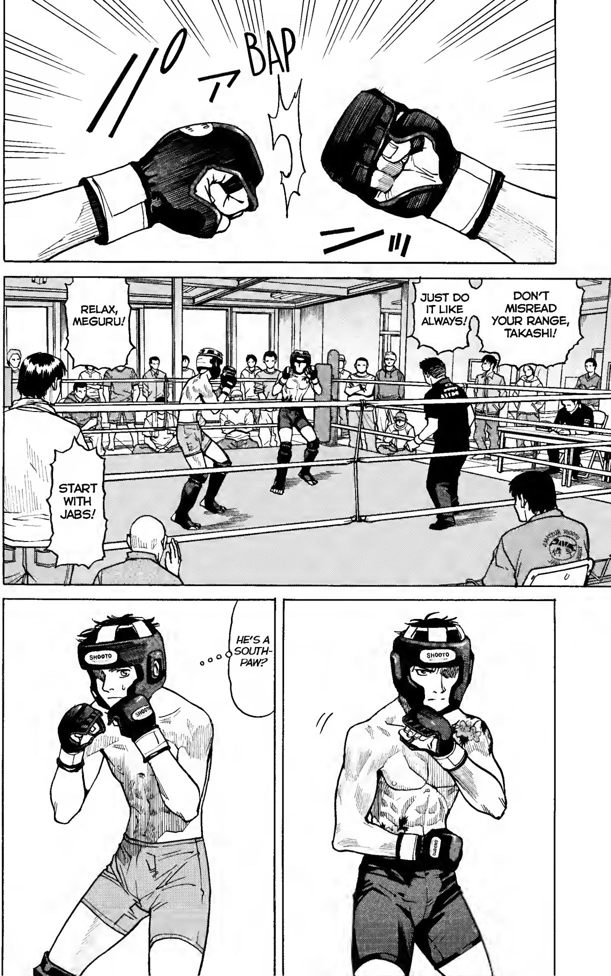
FIRST CONTACT

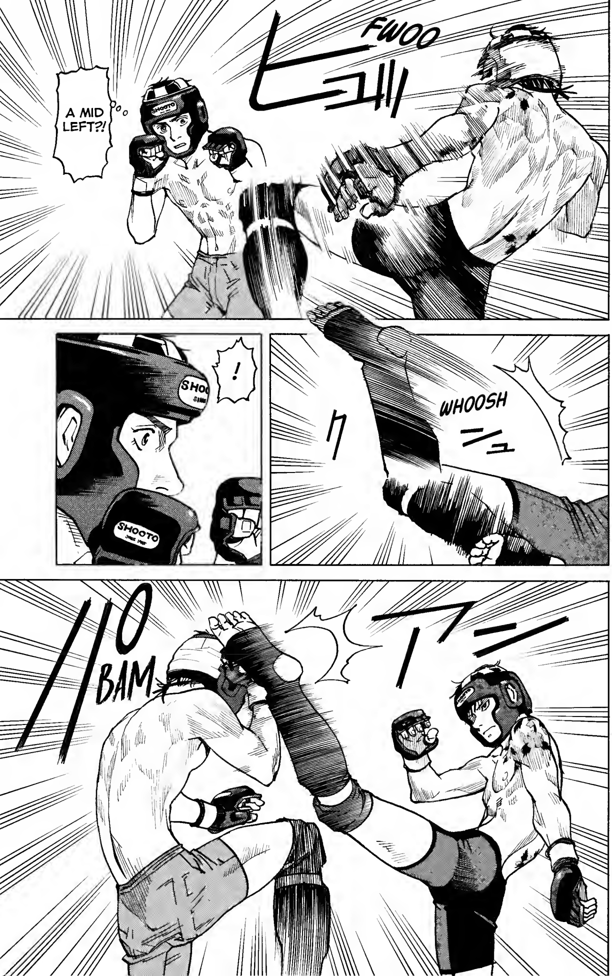


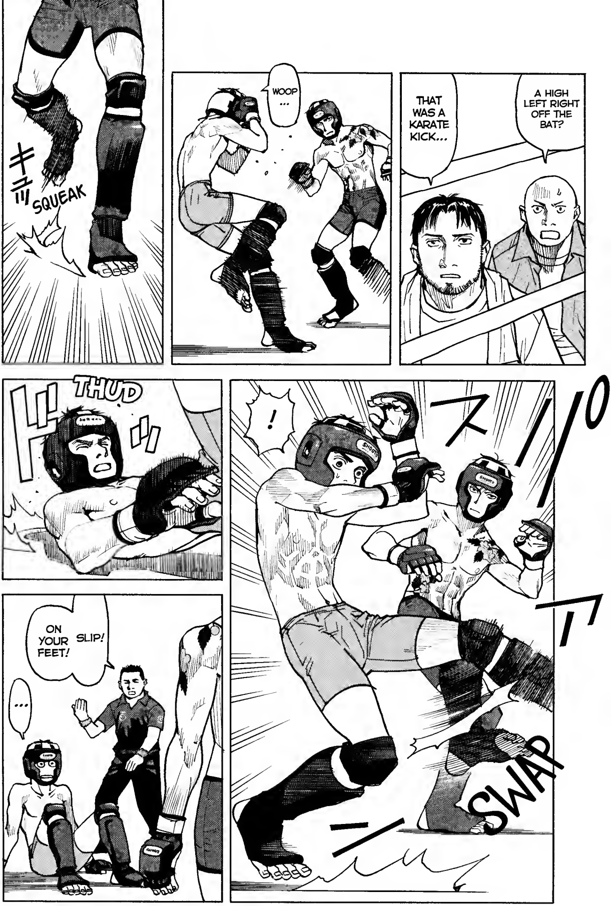

Y'KNOW, TAKASHI ...
剛柔流空手術
潮川道
I REALLY WANT TO SCORE A POINT WITH A HIGH KICK.
YOU WON'T LAND A HIGH KICK OUT THE GATE.
ACCORDING TO GRANDPA,
FIRST YOU NEED TO THROW LOW AND MIDDLE KICKS ...
...IN ORDER TO MAKE YOUR OPPONENT DROP HIS GUARD.
THEN,
WHAT'S THIS BRAZIL THING?

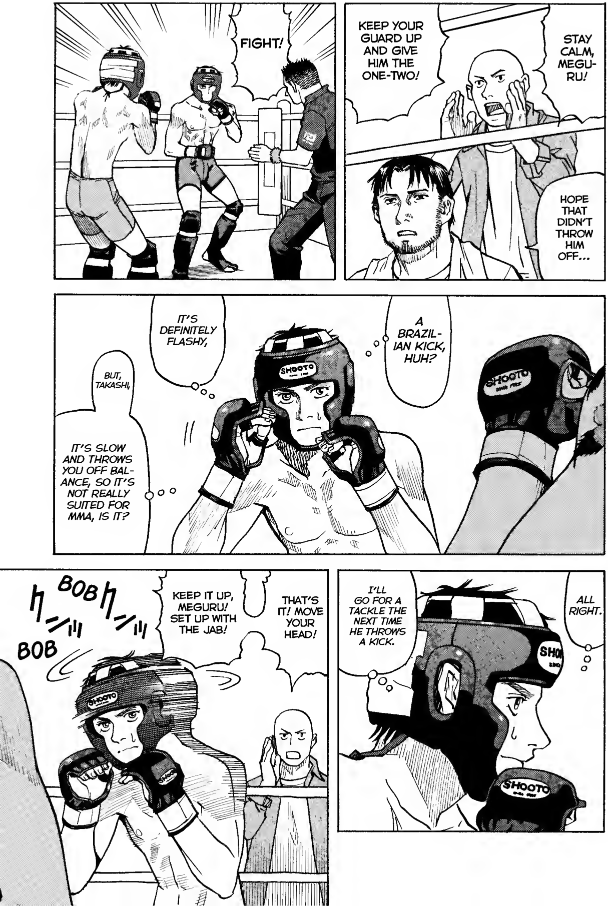
*KYOKUSHIN: A STYLE OF FULL-CONTACT KARATE.

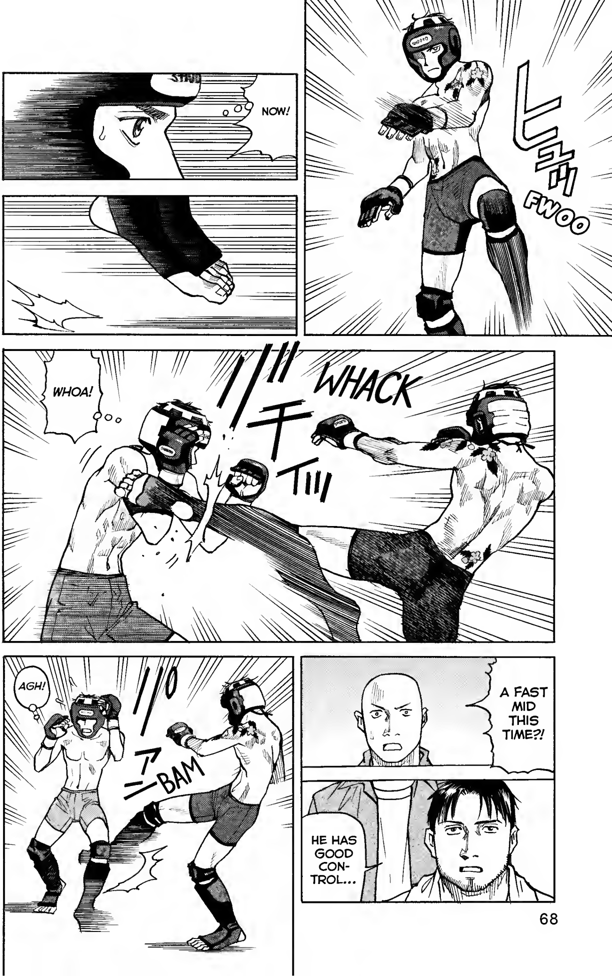

BRAZILIAN KICK?
BRAZILIAN KYOKUSHIN FIGHTERS OFTEN USE IT.
YOU KNOW IT?
USING THE SAME TRAJECTORY AS A MIDDLE KICK...
...THEY PIVOT AT THE KNEE MIDWAY THROUGH TO KICK HIGH.
WHOA...
COOL!
SO,
CAN YOU DO IT, TOO, TAKASHI?
NO...
BUT,
WE'LL PROBABLY BE ABLE TO DO IT SOMEDAY, RIGHT?

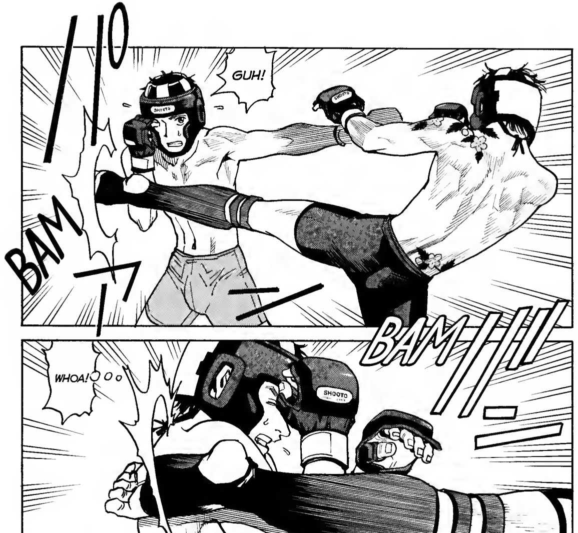

BAP
DON'T MISREAD YOUR RANGE, TAKASHI!
JUST DO IT LIKE ALWAYS!
RELAX, MEGURU!
START WITH JABS!
AMATEUR SHOOTO
SHOOTO
SHOOTO
SHOOTO
SHOOTO
HE'S A SOUTH-PAW?

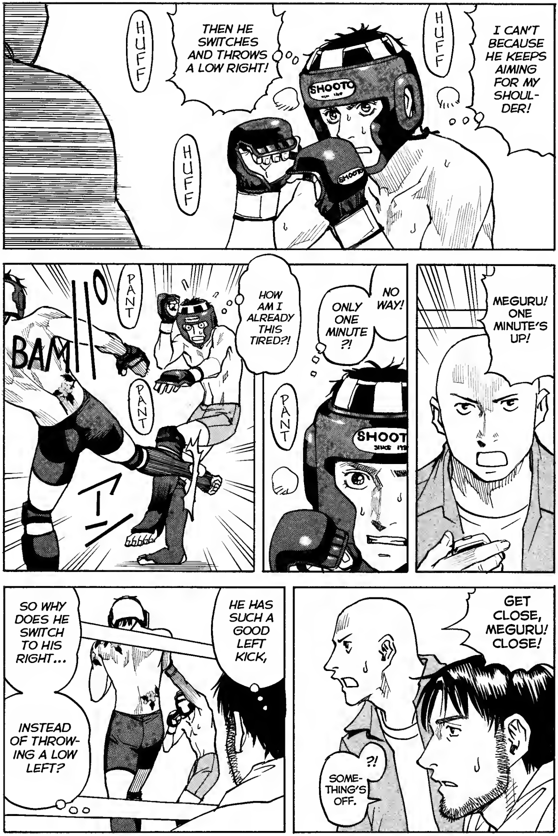

ヒュッ
FWOO
A MID LEFT?!
WHOOSH
シュ
ク
!
BAM

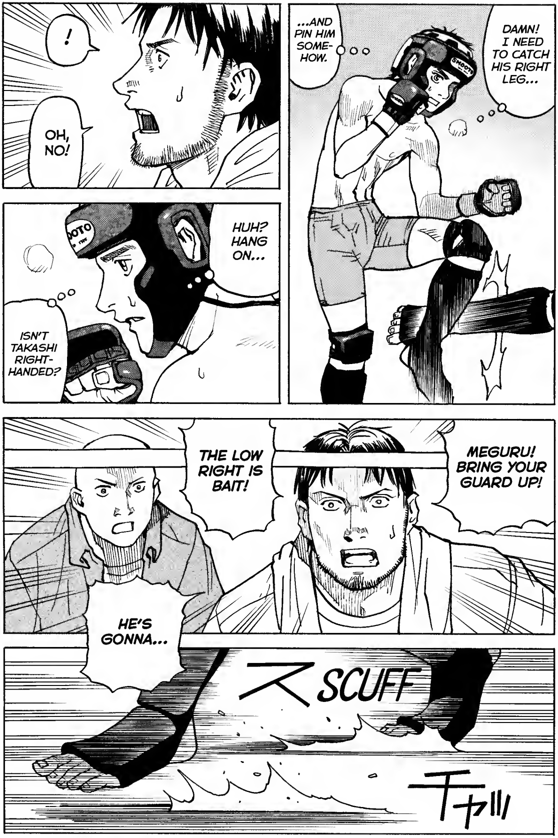

A HIGH LEFT RIGHT OFF THE BAT?
THAT WAS A KARATE KICK...
WOOP ...
キュッ
SQUEAK
!
スパァン
SWAP
ドッ
THUD
ON YOUR FEET! SLIP!
...

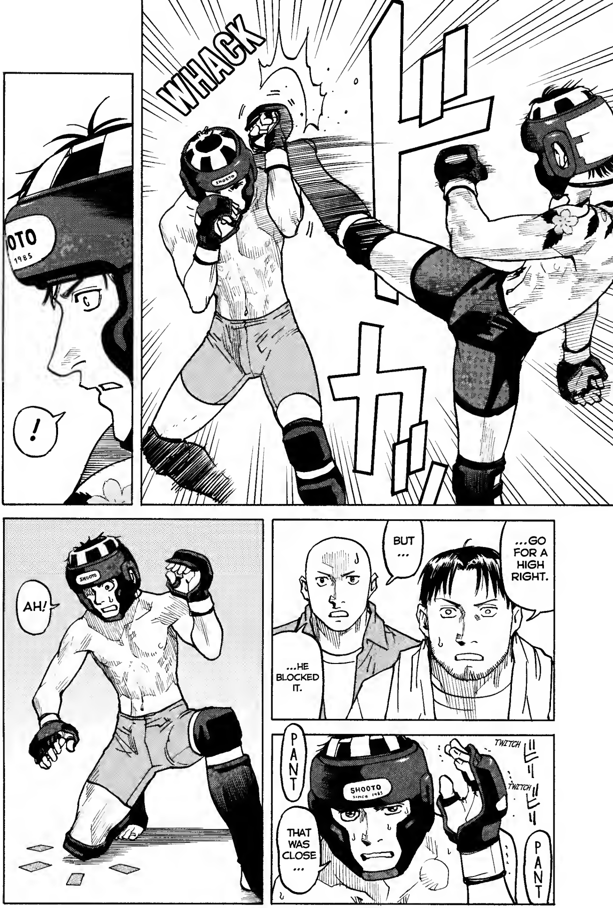

FIGHT!
KEEP YOUR GUARD UP AND GIVE HIM THE ONE-TWO!
STAY CALM, MEGURU!
HOPE THAT DIDN'T THROW HIM OFF...
A BRAZILIAN KICK, HUH?
IT'S DEFINITELY FLASHY,
BUT, TAKASHI,
IT'S SLOW AND THROWS YOU OFF BALANCE, SO IT'S NOT REALLY SUITED FOR MMA, IS IT?
BOB
BOB
KEEP IT UP, MEGURU! SET UP WITH THE JAB!
THAT'S IT! MOVE YOUR HEAD!
I'LL GO FOR A TACKLE THE NEXT TIME HE THROWS A KICK.
ALL RIGHT.

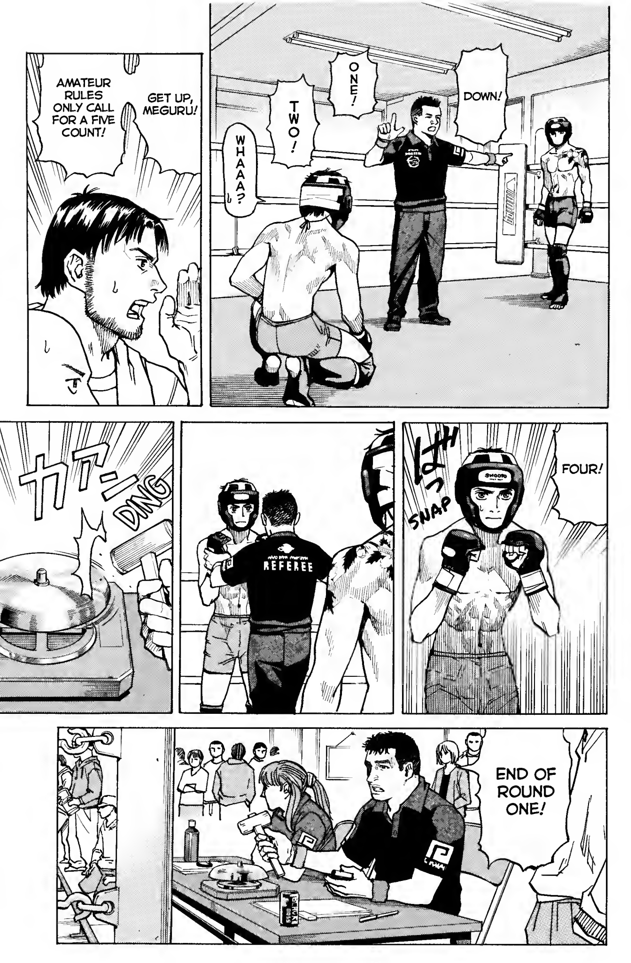

ヒュッ
FWOO
NOW!
WHACK
バチィッ
WHOA!
A FAST MID THIS TIME?!
HE HAS GOOD CONTROL...
AGH!
BAM

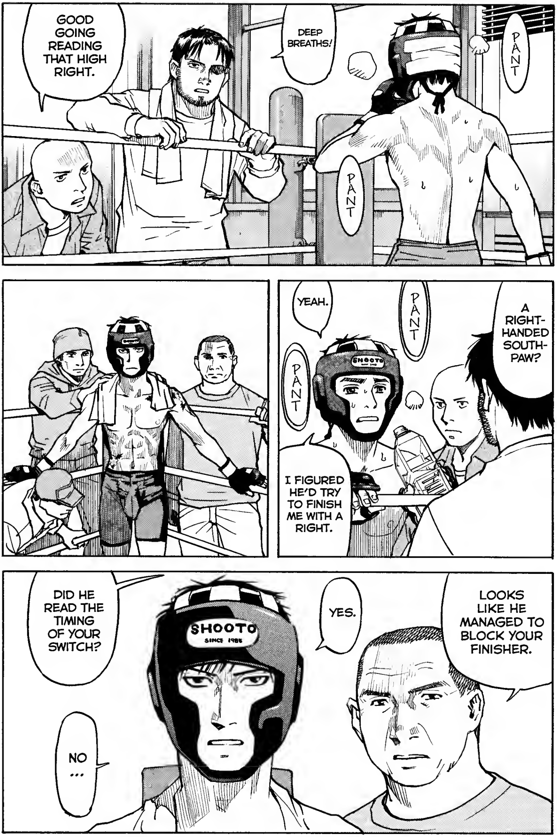

GUH!
BAM
BAM
WHOA!
BAM
HE THROWS A MID LEFT WHENEVER MEGURU TRIES TO GET CLOSE.
MEGURU! CATCH HIS KICK AND TAKE HIM DOWN!

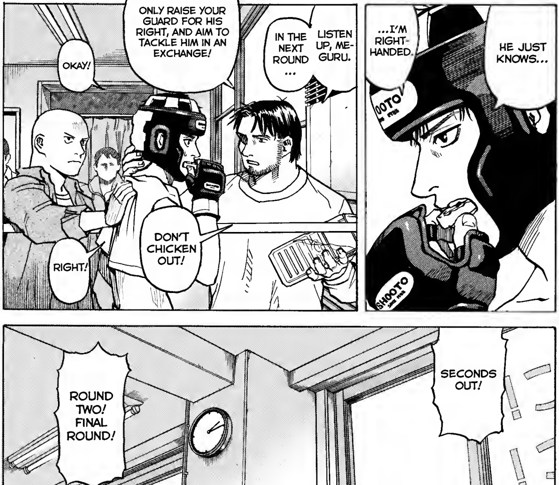

I CAN'T BECAUSE HE KEEPS AIMING FOR MY SHOULDER!
HUFF
THEN HE SWITCHES AND THROWS A LOW RIGHT!
HUFF
HUFF
SHOOTO
MEGURU! ONE MINUTE'S UP!
NO WAY!
ONLY ONE MINUTE?!
PANT
SHOOTO
HOW AM I ALREADY THIS TIRED?!
PANT
PANT
BAM
GET CLOSE, MEGURU! CLOSE!
?!
SOMETHING'S OFF.
HE HAS SUCH A GOOD LEFT KICK,
SO WHY DOES HE SWITCH TO HIS RIGHT...
INSTEAD OF THROWING A LOW LEFT?

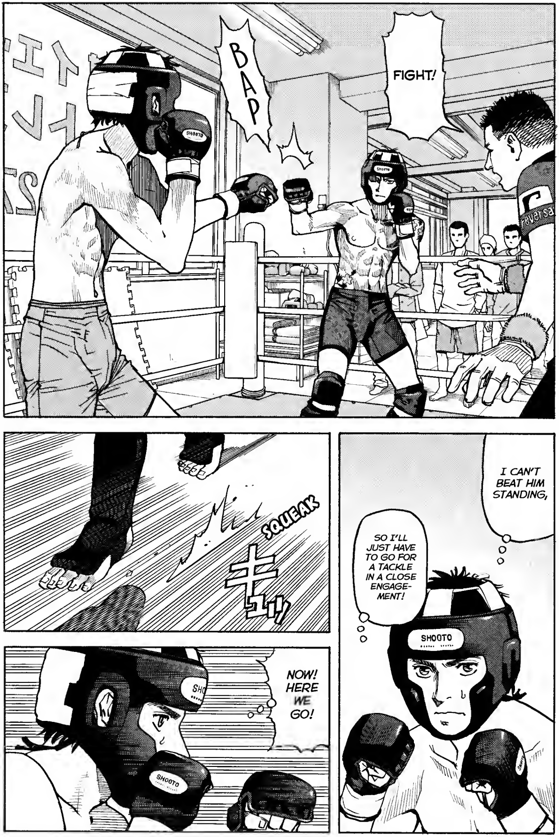

DAMN! I NEED TO CATCH HIS RIGHT LEG...
...AND PIN HIM SOME-HOW.
!
OH, NO!
HUH? HANG ON...
ISN'T TAKASHI RIGHT-HANDED?
MEGURU! BRING YOUR GUARD UP!
THE LOW RIGHT IS BAIT!
HE'S GONNA...
ス
SCUFF

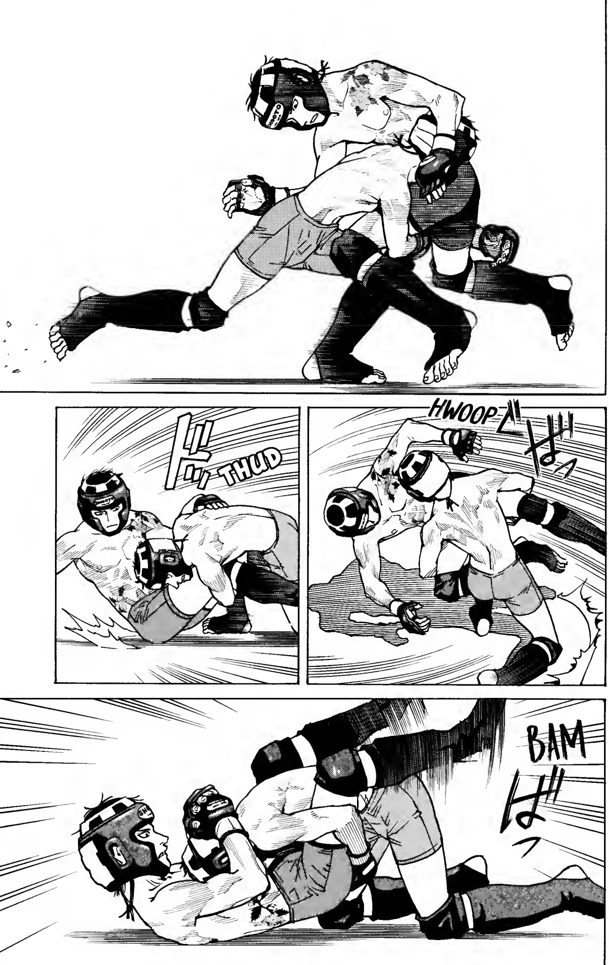

WHACK
ドカッ
SHOOTO
!
...GO FOR A HIGH RIGHT.
BUT ...
...HE BLOCKED IT.
PANT
TWITCH
TWITCH
THAT WAS CLOSE ...
PANT
SHOOTO since 1985
AH!

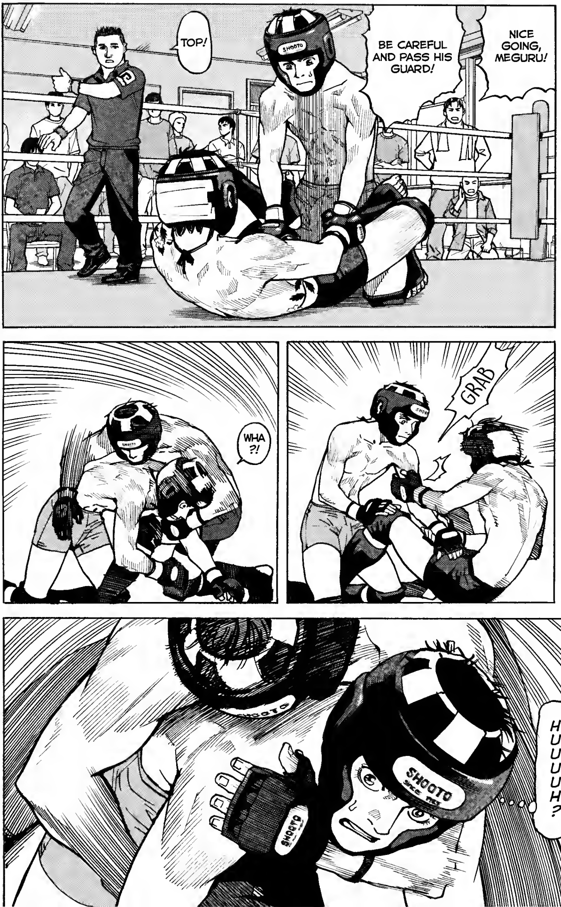

DOWN!
ONE!
TWO!
WHAAA?
GET UP, MEGURU!
AMATEUR RULES ONLY CALL FOR A FIVE COUNT!
FOUR!
ぱっ
SNAP
SHOOTO
REFEREE
カァン
DING
END OF ROUND ONE!

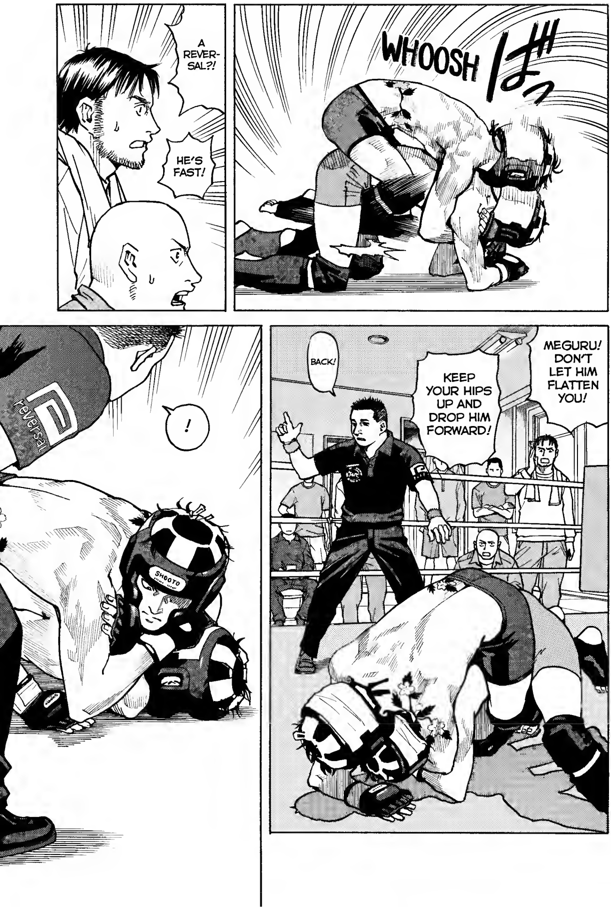

PANT
PANT
DEEP BREATHS!
GOOD GOING READING THAT HIGH RIGHT.
A RIGHT-HANDED SOUTHPAW?
PANT
YEAH.
PANT
I FIGURED HE'D TRY TO FINISH ME WITH A RIGHT.
SHOOTO
LOOKS LIKE HE MANAGED TO BLOCK YOUR FINISHER.
YES.
DID HE READ THE TIMING OF YOUR SWITCH?
SHOOTO SINCE 1985
NO …


HE JUST KNOWS...
...I'M RIGHT-HANDED.
LISTEN UP, MEGURU.
IN THE NEXT ROUND...
ONLY RAISE YOUR GUARD FOR HIS RIGHT, AND AIM TO TACKLE HIM IN AN EXCHANGE!
OKAY!
DON'T CHICKEN OUT!
RIGHT!
SECONDS OUT!
ROUND TWO! FINAL ROUND!
HE'S GONNA GET KNOCKED OUT IF HIS OPPONENT COUNTERS WITH THAT KICK.
UH-HUH.
BUT MEGURU'S GONNA LOSE ANYWAY IF HE DOESN'T TAKE HIM TO THE GROUND RIGHT OUT OF THE GATE.

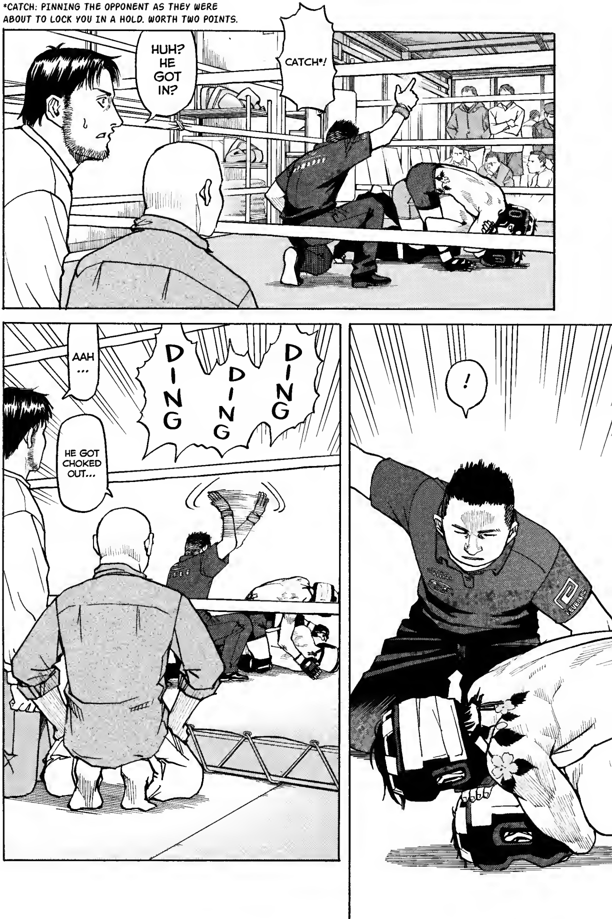

FIGHT!
BAP
I CAN'T BEAT HIM STANDING,
SO I'LL JUST HAVE TO GO FOR A TACKLE IN A CLOSE ENGAGEMENT!
SQUEAK
キュッ
NOW! HERE WE GO!

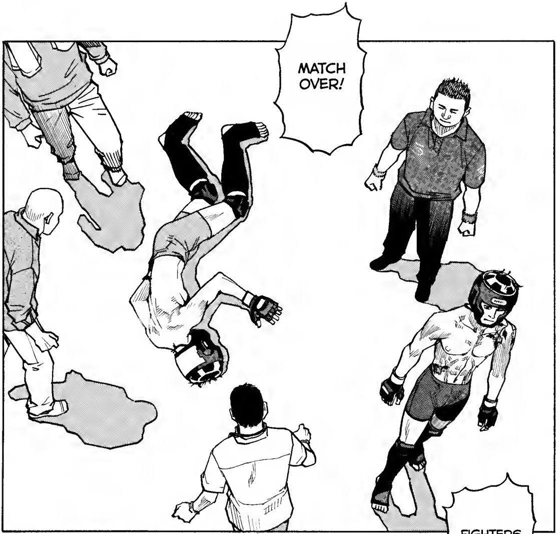

SHOOTO
HWOOP
ばっ
THUD
ドッ
BAM
ばっ

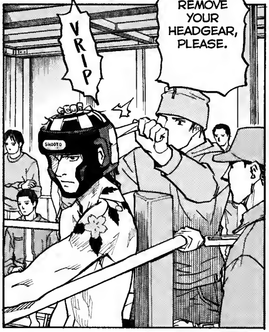

NICE GOING, MEGURU!
BE CAREFUL AND PASS HIS GUARD!
TOP!
SHOOTO
GRAB
WHA ?!
HUUUUH?
SHOOTO

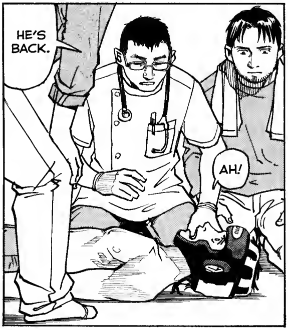

WHOOSH ばっ
A REVERSAL?!
HE'S FAST!
MEGURU! DON'T LET HIM FLATTEN YOU!
KEEP YOUR HIPS UP AND DROP HIM FORWARD!
BACK!
!
reversal
SHOOTO

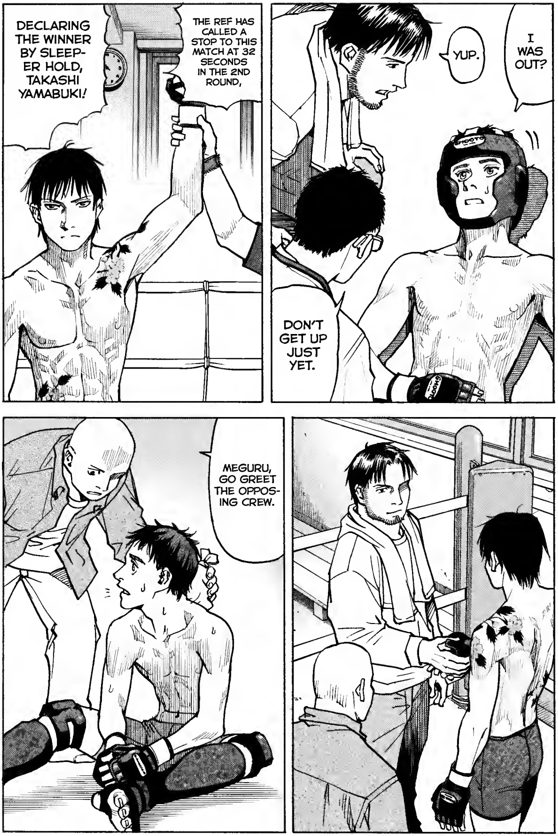
*CATCH: PINNING THE OPPONENT AS THEY WERE ABOUT TO LOCK YOU IN A HOLD. WORTH TWO POINTS.

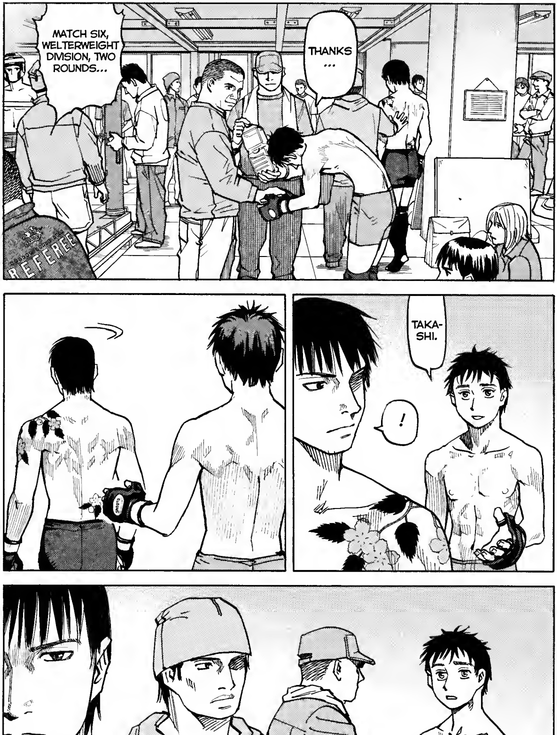

CATCH*!
HUH? HE GOT IN?
!
DING DING DING
AAH...
HE GOT CHOKED OUT...

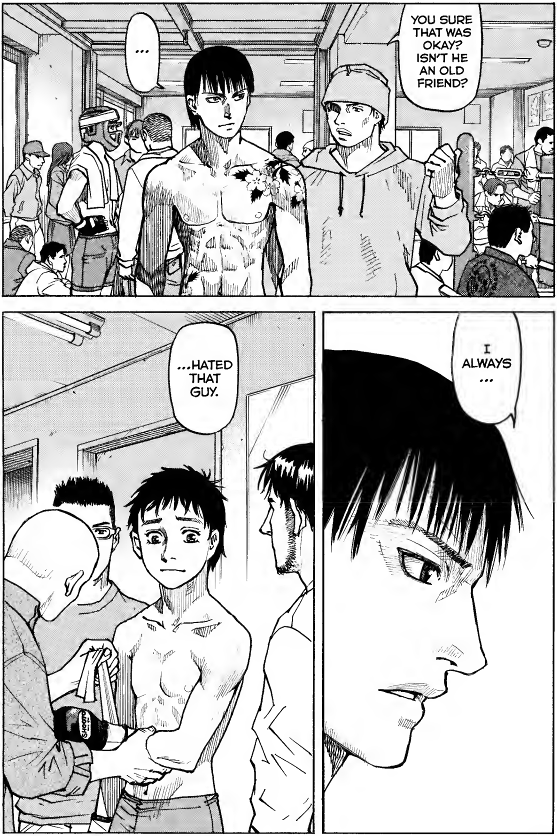

MATCH OVER!

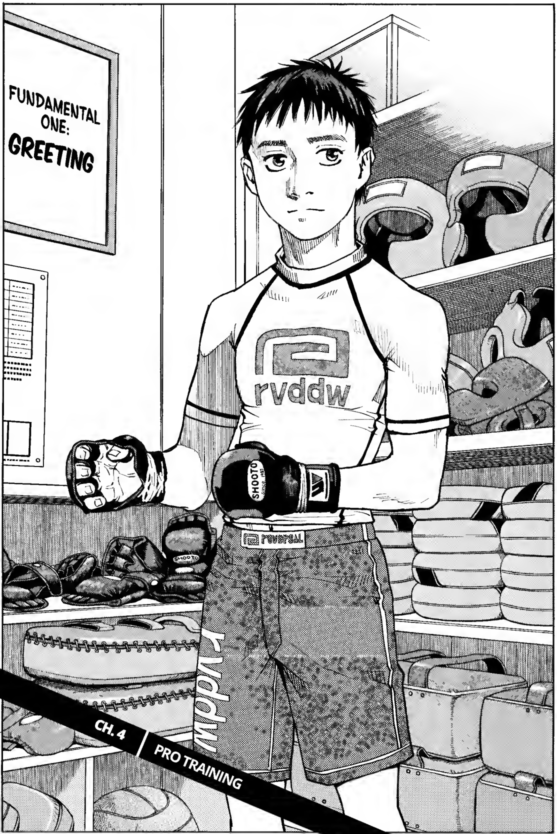

FIGHTERS, REMOVE YOUR HEADGEAR, PLEASE.
VRIP
SHOOTO


HE'S BACK.
AH!

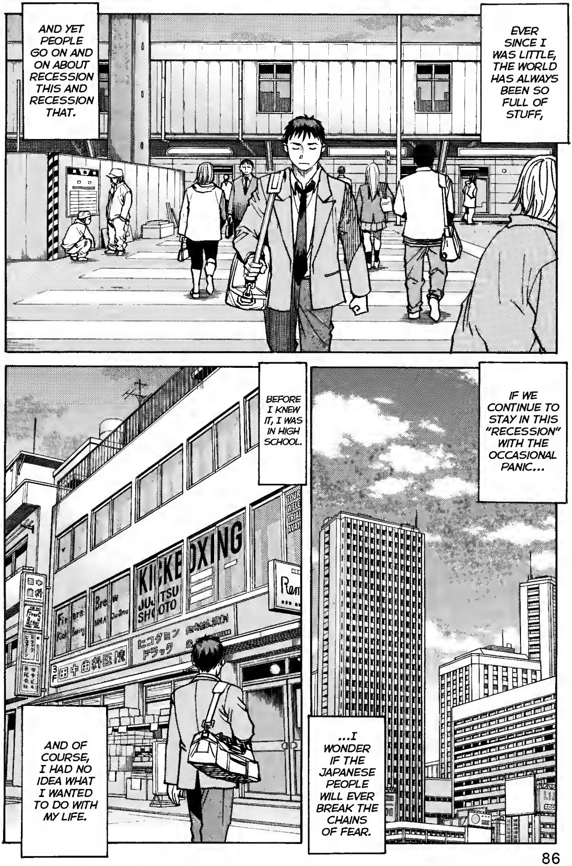

I WAS OUT?
YUP.
SHOOTO
DON'T GET UP JUST YET.
THE REF HAS CALLED A STOP TO THIS MATCH AT 32 SECONDS IN THE 2ND ROUND,
DECLARING THE WINNER BY SLEEPER HOLD, TAKASHI YAMABUKI!
MEGURU, GO GREET THE OPPOSING CREW.

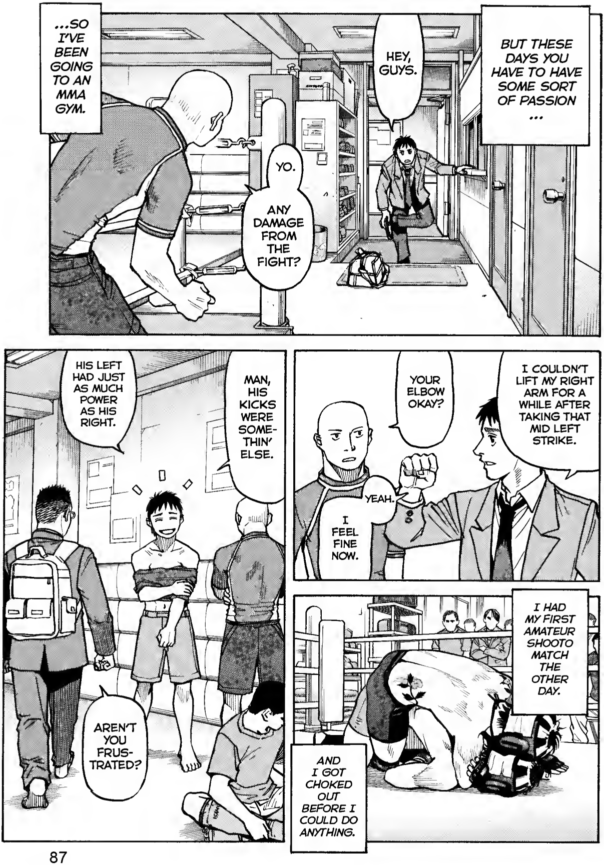

THANKS …
MATCH SIX, WELTERWEIGHT DIVISION, TWO ROUNDS…
REFEREE
TAKA-SHI.
!

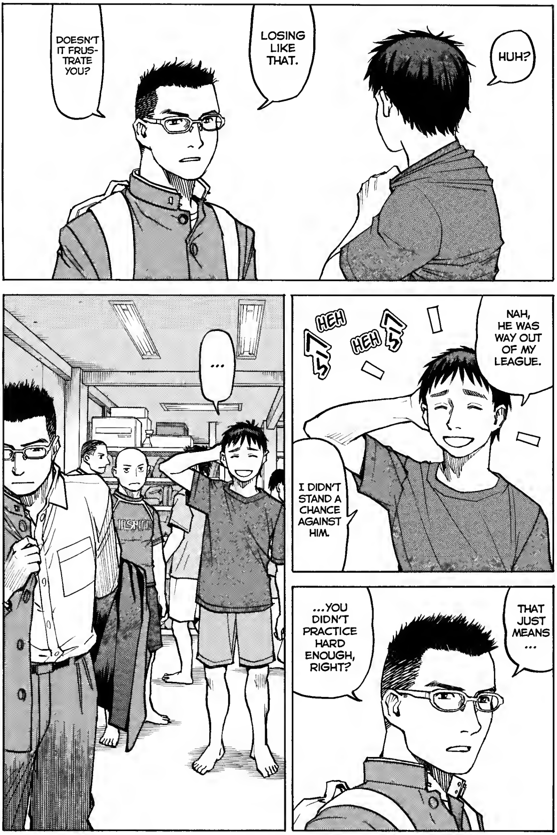

YOU SURE THAT WAS OKAY? ISN'T HE AN OLD FRIEND?
...
I ALWAYS ...
...HATED THAT GUY.

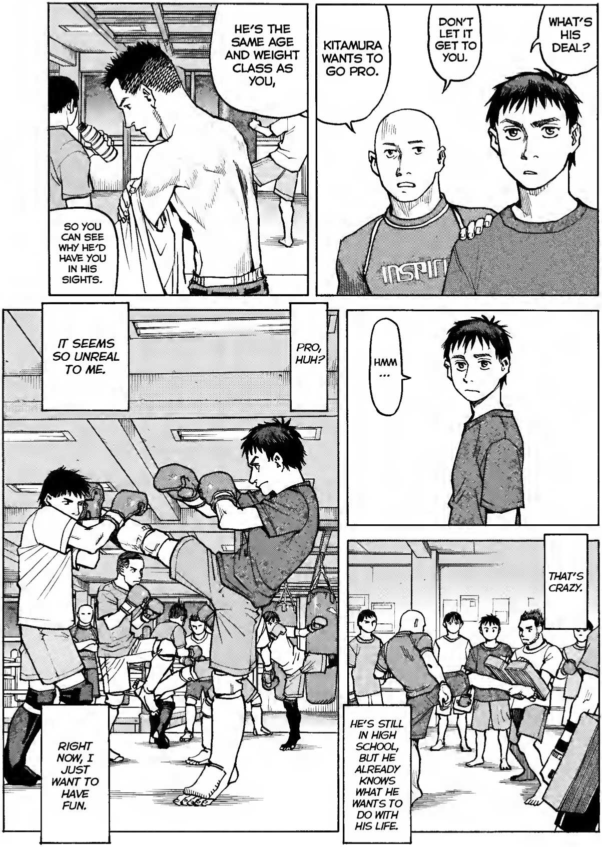

FUNDAMENTAL ONE:
GREETING
rvddw
SHOOTO
SINCE 1985
SHOOTO
rvddw

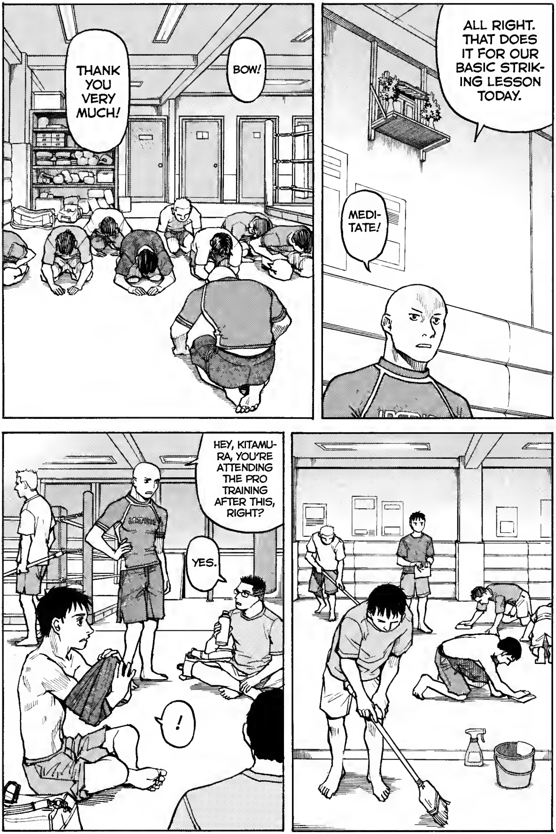
CH. 4 | PRO TRAINING

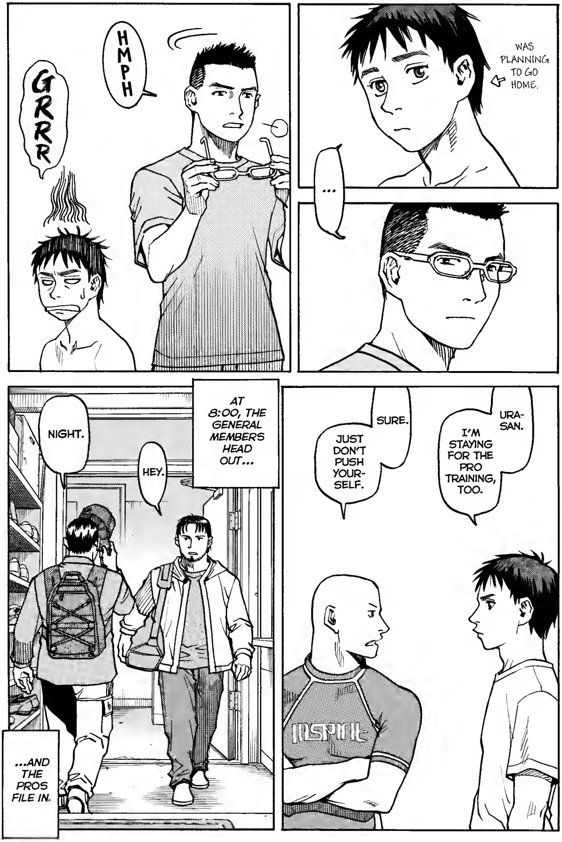

EVER SINCE I WAS LITTLE, THE WORLD HAS ALWAYS BEEN SO FULL OF STUFF,
AND YET PEOPLE GO ON AND ON ABOUT RECESSION THIS AND RECESSION THAT.
IF WE CONTINUE TO STAY IN THIS "RECESSION" WITH THE OCCASIONAL PANIC...
...I WONDER IF THE JAPANESE PEOPLE WILL EVER BREAK THE CHAINS OF FEAR.
BEFORE I KNEW IT, I WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL.
KICKBOXING
JUJITSU SHOOTO
田中歯科医院
ドラッグ
AND OF COURSE, I HAD NO IDEA WHAT I WANTED TO DO WITH MY LIFE.

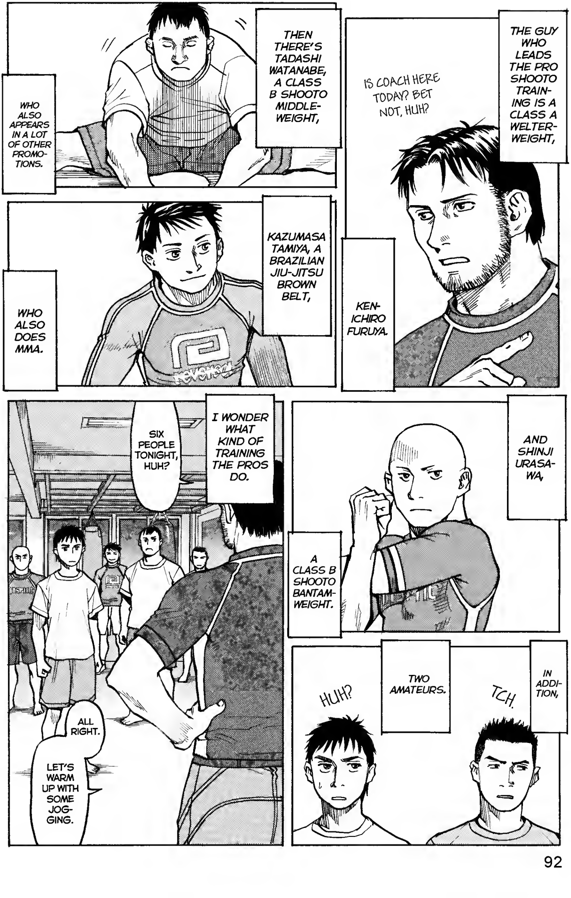

BUT THESE DAYS YOU HAVE TO HAVE SOME SORT OF PASSION ...
HEY, GUYS.
YO.
ANY DAMAGE FROM THE FIGHT?
...SO I'VE BEEN GOING TO AN MMA GYM.
I COULDN'T LIFT MY RIGHT ARM FOR A WHILE AFTER TAKING THAT MID LEFT STRIKE.
YOUR ELBOW OKAY?
YEAH.
I FEEL FINE NOW.
I HAD MY FIRST AMATEUR SHOOTO MATCH THE OTHER DAY.
AND I GOT CHOKED OUT BEFORE I COULD DO ANYTHING.
MAN, HIS KICKS WERE SOMETHIN' ELSE.
HIS LEFT HAD JUST AS MUCH POWER AS HIS RIGHT.
AREN'T YOU FRUSTRATED?

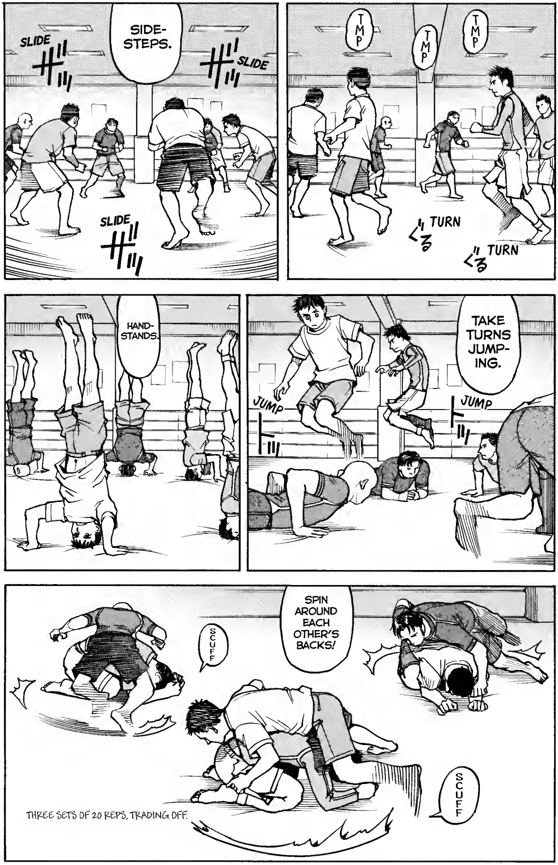

HUH?
LOSING LIKE THAT.
DOESN'T IT FRUSTRATE YOU?
NAH, HE WAS WAY OUT OF MY LEAGUE.
HEH HEH
I DIDN'T STAND A CHANCE AGAINST HIM.
THAT JUST MEANS...
...YOU DIDN'T PRACTICE HARD ENOUGH, RIGHT?
...

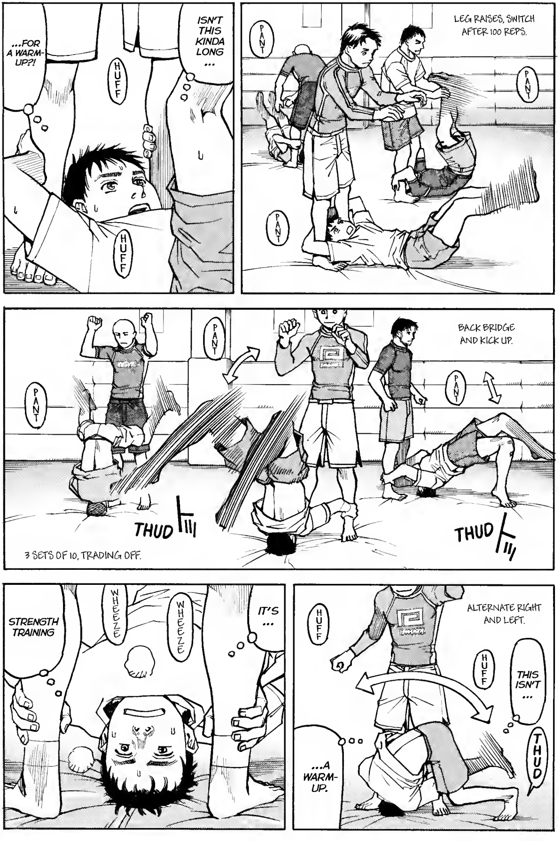

WHAT'S HIS DEAL?
DON'T LET IT GET TO YOU.
KITAMURA WANTS TO GO PRO.
INSPIRI
HE'S THE SAME AGE AND WEIGHT CLASS AS YOU,
SO YOU CAN SEE WHY HE'D HAVE YOU IN HIS SIGHTS.
HMM ...
THAT'S CRAZY.
HE'S STILL IN HIGH SCHOOL, BUT HE ALREADY KNOWS WHAT HE WANTS TO DO WITH HIS LIFE.
PRO, HUH?
IT SEEMS SO UNREAL TO ME.
RIGHT NOW, I JUST WANT TO HAVE FUN.

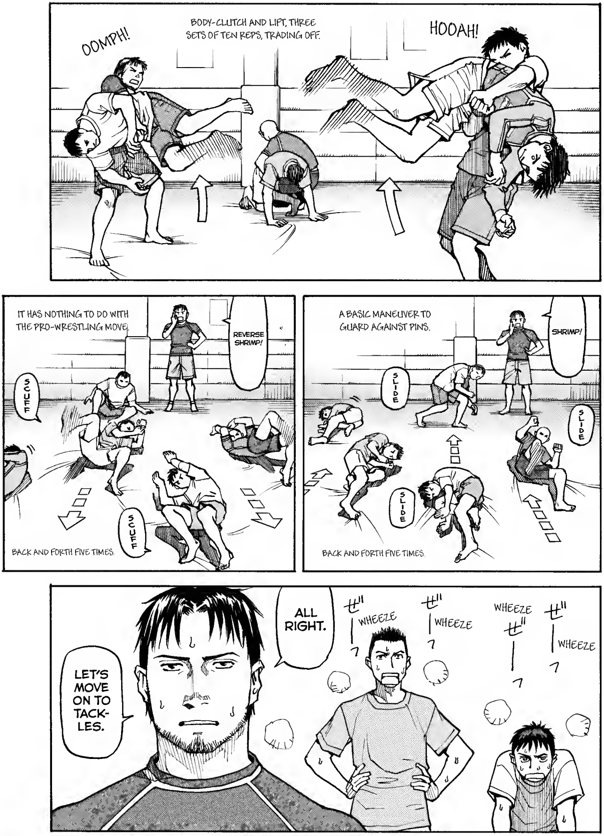

ALL RIGHT. THAT DOES IT FOR OUR BASIC STRIKING LESSON TODAY.
MEDITATE!
BOW!
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
HEY, KITAMURA, YOU'RE ATTENDING THE PRO TRAINING AFTER THIS, RIGHT?
YES.
!

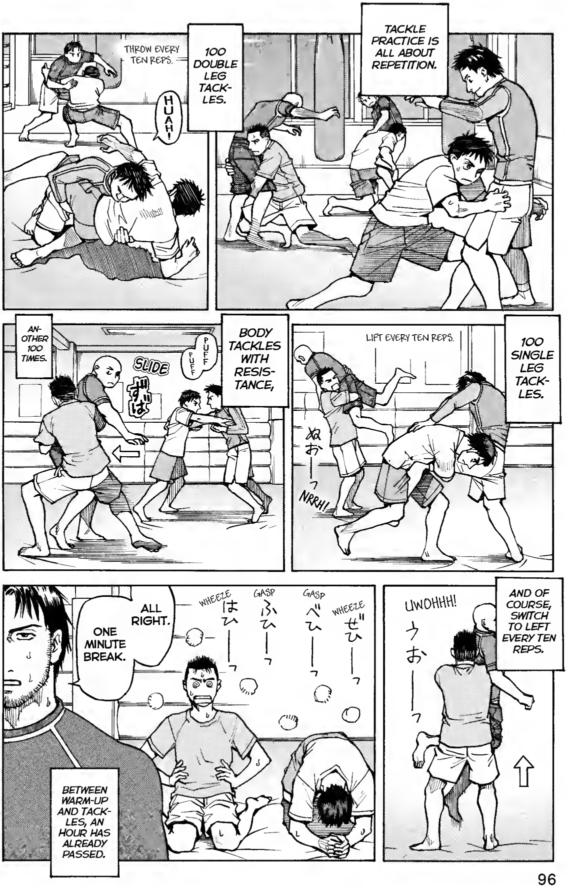

WAS PLANNING TO GO HOME.
...
HMPH
GRRR
URA-SAN.
I'M STAYING FOR THE PRO TRAINING, TOO.
SURE.
JUST DON'T PUSH YOURSELF.
AT 8:00, THE GENERAL MEMBERS HEAD OUT...
HEY.
NIGHT.
...AND THE PROS FILE IN.
INSPIRIT

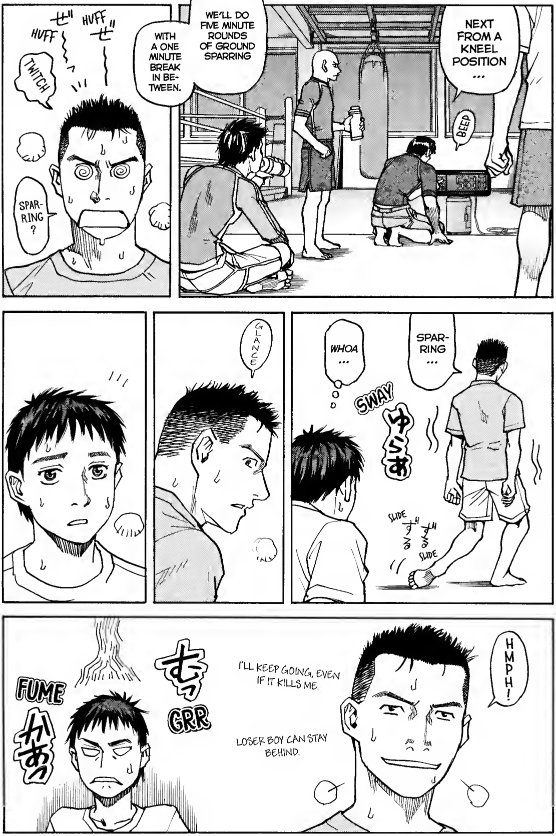

THE GUY WHO LEADS THE PRO SHOOTO TRAINING IS A CLASS A WELTERWEIGHT,
IS COACH HERE TODAY? BET NOT, HUH?
KENICHIRO FURUYA.
THEN THERE'S TADASHI WATANABE, A CLASS B SHOOTO MIDDLEWEIGHT,
WHO ALSO APPEARS IN A LOT OF OTHER PROMOTIONS.
KAZUMASA TAMIYA, A BRAZILIAN JIU-JITSU BROWN BELT,
WHO ALSO DOES MMA.
AND SHINJI URASAWA,
A CLASS B SHOOTO BANTAMWEIGHT.
IN ADDITION,
TCH.
TWO AMATEURS.
HUH?
I WONDER WHAT KIND OF TRAINING THE PROS DO.
SIX PEOPLE TONIGHT, HUH?
ALL RIGHT.
LET'S WARM UP WITH SOME JOGGING.

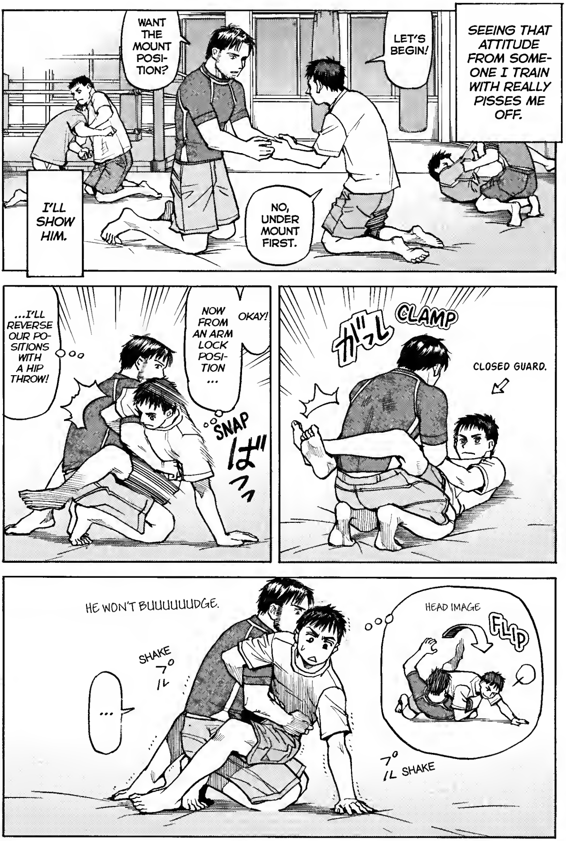

TMP
TMP
TMP
TURN ぐる
TURN ぐる
SIDE-STEPS.
SLIDE ザ
SLIDE ザ
SLIDE ザ
TAKE TURNS JUMPING.
JUMP ト
JUMP ト
HANDSTANDS.
SPIN AROUND EACH OTHER'S BACKS!
SCUFF
SCUFF
THREE SETS OF 20 REPS, TRADING OFF.

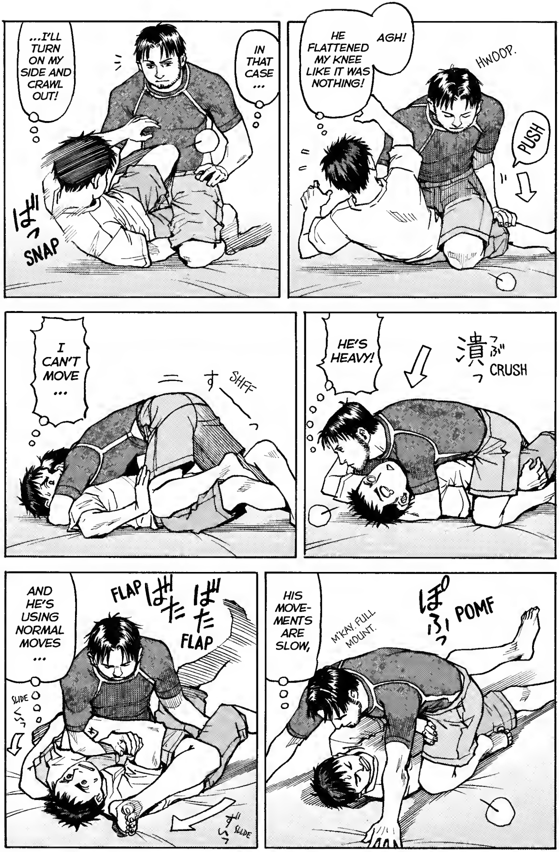

LEG RAISES, SWITCH AFTER 100 REPS.
PANT
PANT
PANT
ISN'T THIS KINDA LONG ...
...FOR A WARM-UP?!
HUFF
HUFF
BACK BRIDGE AND KICK UP.
PANT
PANT
PANT
THUD
THUD
3 SETS OF 10, TRADING OFF.
ALTERNATE RIGHT AND LEFT.
HUFF
HUFF
THIS ISN'T ...
...A WARM-UP.
THUD
IT'S ...
WHEEZE
WHEEZE
STRENGTH TRAINING

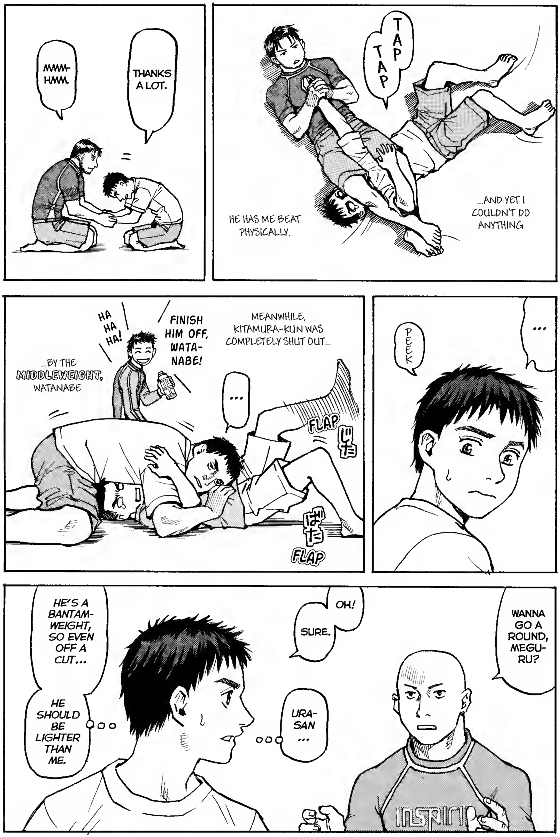

HOOAH!
BODY-CLUTCH AND LIFT, THREE SETS OF TEN REPS, TRADING OFF.
OOMPH!
A BASIC MANEUVER TO GUARD AGAINST PINS.
SHRIMP!
SLIDE
SLIDE
SLIDE
BACK AND FORTH FIVE TIMES.
IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH THE PRO-WRESTLING MOVE.
REVERSE SHRIMP!
SCUFF
SCUFF
BACK AND FORTH FIVE TIMES.
ゼ WHEEZE
ゼ WHEEZE
WHEEZE ゼ
ゼ WHEEZE
ゼ WHEEZE
ALL RIGHT.
LET'S MOVE ON TO TACKLES.

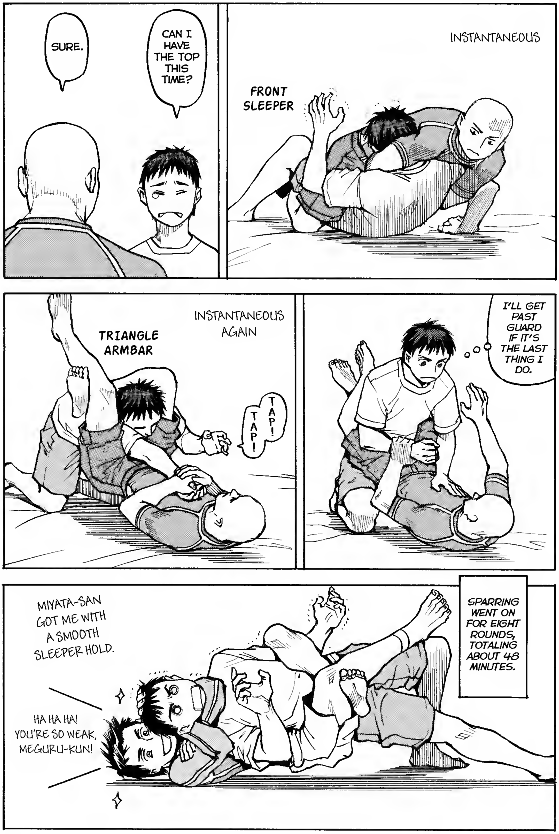

TACKLE PRACTICE IS ALL ABOUT REPETITION.
100 DOUBLE LEG TACKLES.
THROW EVERY TEN REPS.
HUAH!
100 SINGLE LEG TACKLES.
LIFT EVERY TEN REPS.
ぬおーっ
NRRH!
BODY TACKLES WITH RESISTANCE,
PUFF PUFF
SLIDE
ずば
ANOTHER 100 TIMES.
AND OF COURSE, SWITCH TO LEFT EVERY TEN REPS.
UWOHHH!
うおーっ
WHEEZE
ぜひーっ
GASP
べひーっ
GASP
ふひーっ
WHEEZE
はひーっ
ALL RIGHT.
ONE MINUTE BREAK.
BETWEEN WARM-UP AND TACKLES, AN HOUR HAS ALREADY PASSED.

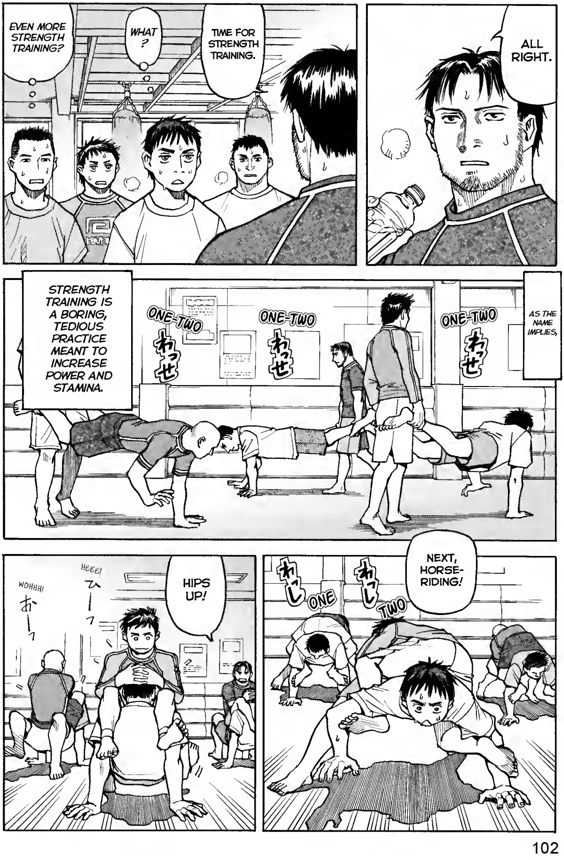

NEXT FROM A KNEEL POSITION ...
BEEP
WE'LL DO FIVE MINUTE ROUNDS OF GROUND SPARRING
WITH A ONE MINUTE BREAK IN BETWEEN.
ゼ HUFF
ゼ HUFF
TWITCH
SPARRING?
SPARRING ...
WHOA ...
SWAY ゆらぁ
ずる SLIDE
ずる SLIDE
GLANCE
HMPH!
I'LL KEEP GOING, EVEN IF IT KILLS ME.
LOSER BOY CAN STAY BEHIND.
むっ GRR
FUME かあっ

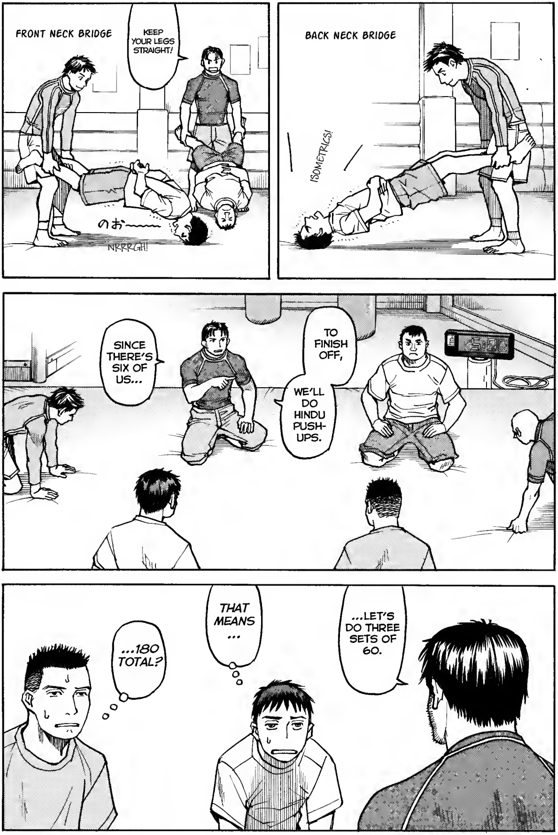

SEEING THAT ATTITUDE FROM SOMEONE I TRAIN WITH REALLY PISSES ME OFF.
LET'S BEGIN!
WANT THE MOUNT POSITION?
NO, UNDER MOUNT FIRST.
I'LL SHOW HIM.
CLAMP
がっし
CLOSED GUARD.
OKAY!
NOW FROM AN ARM LOCK POSITION ...
SNAP
ばっ
...I'LL REVERSE OUR POSITIONS WITH A HIP THROW!
HEAD IMAGE
FLIP
HE WON'T BUUUUUUDGE.
SHAKE
プル
...
プル SHAKE

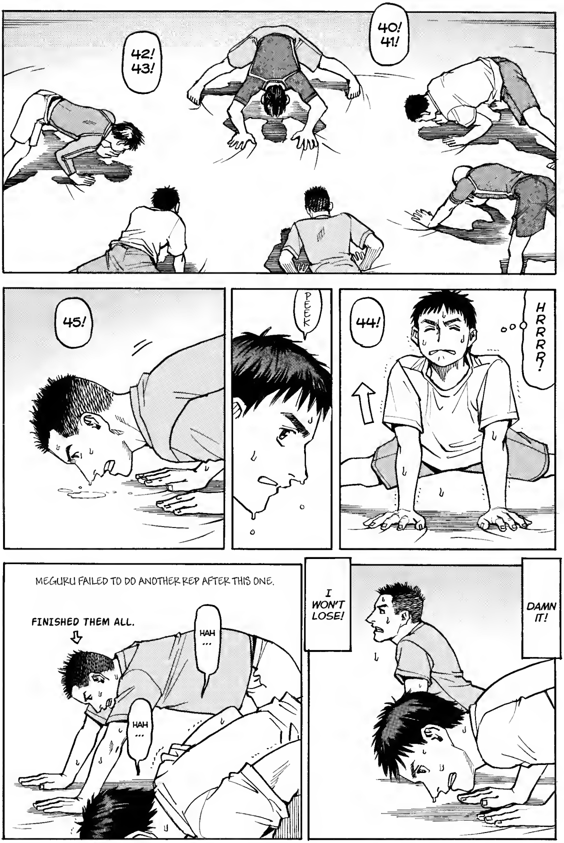

AGH!
HE FLATTENED MY KNEE LIKE IT WAS NOTHING!
HWOOP.
PUSH
IN THAT CASE ...
...I'LL TURN ON MY SIDE AND CRAWL OUT!
ばっ
SNAP
潰ぶっ
CRUSH
HE'S HEAVY!
すー
SHFF
I CAN'T MOVE ...
ぽふっ
POMF
M'KAY. FULL MOUNT.
HIS MOVEMENTS ARE SLOW,
ばた ばた
FLAP
FLAP
AND HE'S USING NORMAL MOVES ...
SLIDE
ずいっ
SLIDE

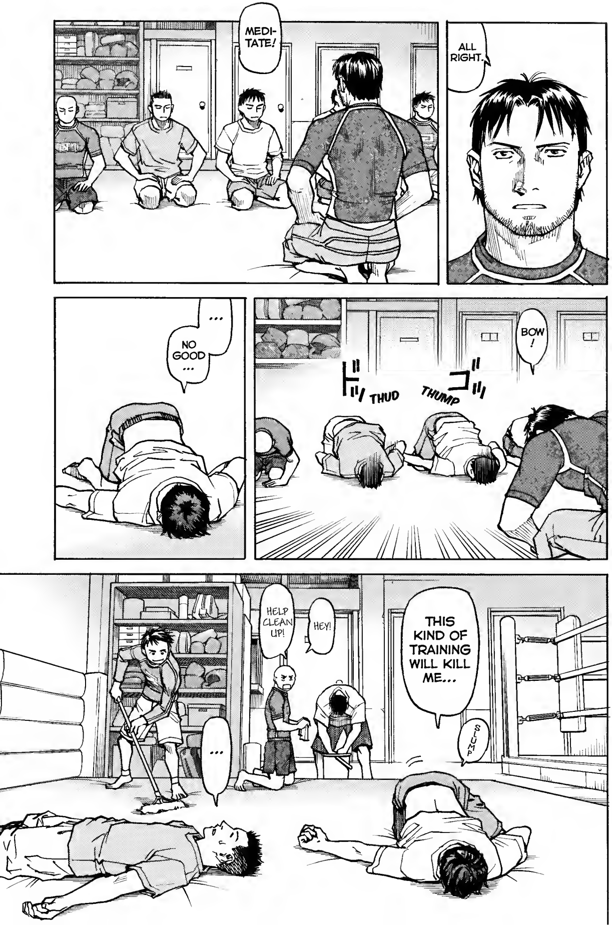

TAP TAP
HE HAS ME BEAT PHYSICALLY.
...AND YET I COULDN'T DO ANYTHING
THANKS A LOT.
MMM-HMM.
PEEK
...
MEANWHILE, KITAMURA-KUN WAS COMPLETELY SHUT OUT...
FINISH HIM OFF, WATANABE!
HA HA HA!
...BY THE MIDDLEWEIGHT, WATANABE
...
FLAP じた
ばた FLAP
WANNA GO A ROUND, MEGURU?
OH!
SURE.
URA-SAN...
HE'S A BANTAMWEIGHT, SO EVEN OFF A CUT...
HE SHOULD BE LIGHTER THAN ME.

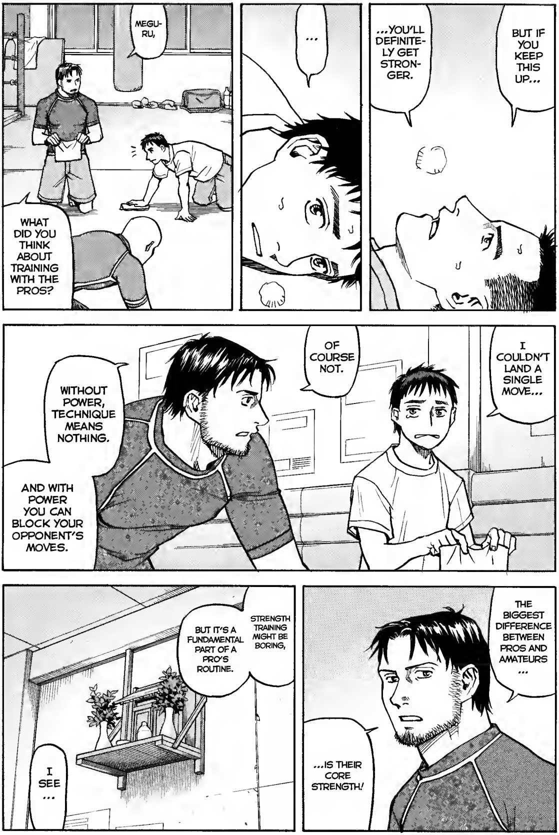

INSTANTANEOUS
FRONT SLEEPER
CAN I HAVE THE TOP THIS TIME?
SURE.
I'LL GET PAST GUARD IF IT'S THE LAST THING I DO.
INSTANTANEOUS AGAIN
TRIANGLE ARMBAR
TAP! TAP!
SPARRING WENT ON FOR EIGHT ROUNDS, TOTALING ABOUT 48 MINUTES.
MIYATA-SAN GOT ME WITH A SMOOTH SLEEPER HOLD.
HA HA HA! YOU'RE SO WEAK, MEGURU-KUN!

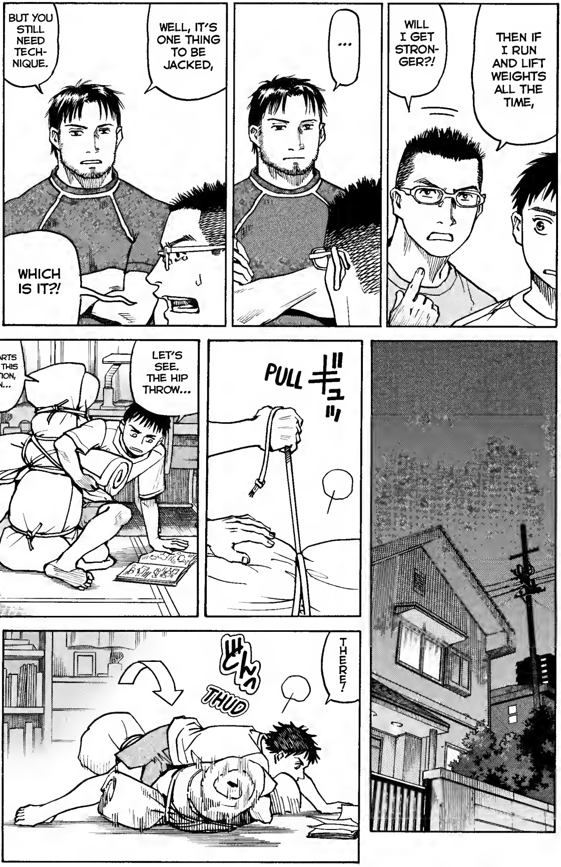

ALL RIGHT.
TIME FOR STRENGTH TRAINING.
WHAT?
EVEN MORE STRENGTH TRAINING?
AS THE NAME IMPLIES,
STRENGTH TRAINING IS A BORING, TEDIOUS PRACTICE MEANT TO INCREASE POWER AND STAMINA.
ONE-TWO わっせ
ONE-TWO わっせ
ONE-TWO わっせ
NEXT, HORSE-RIDING!
TWO わっし
ONE わっし
HIPS UP!
HEEE! ひー
WOHHH! おー

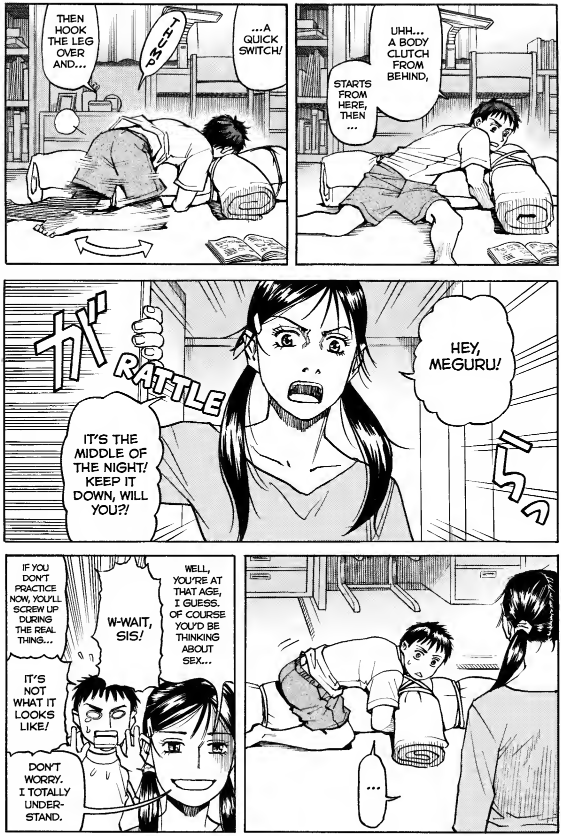

BACK NECK BRIDGE
ISOMETRICS!
FRONT NECK BRIDGE
KEEP YOUR LEGS STRAIGHT!
のお〜〜
NRRRGH!
TO FINISH OFF,
WE'LL DO HINDU PUSH-UPS.
SINCE THERE'S SIX OF US...
...LET'S DO THREE SETS OF 60.
THAT MEANS...
...180 TOTAL?

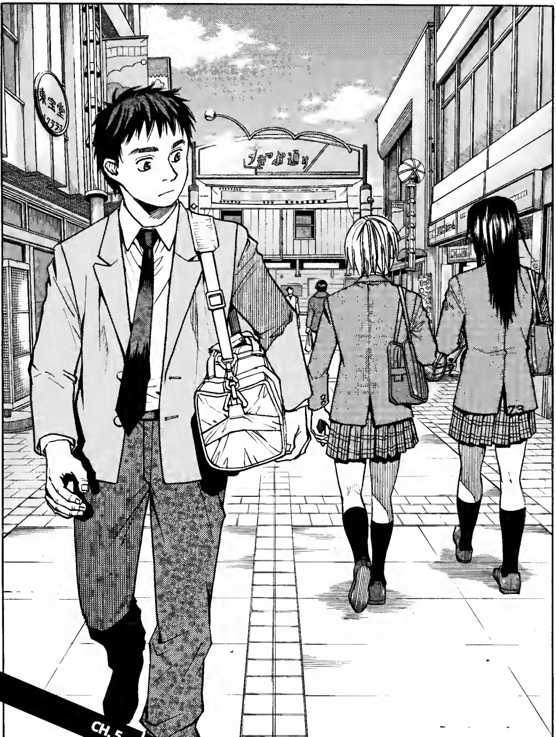

40!
41!
42!
43!
HRRRR!
44!
PEEK
45!
DAMN IT!
I WON'T LOSE!
MEGURU FAILED TO DO ANOTHER REP AFTER THIS ONE.
FINISHED THEM ALL.
HAH...
HAH...


ALL RIGHT.
MEDI-TATE!
BOW!
ドッ THUD
ゴッ THUMP
... NO GOOD ...
THIS KIND OF TRAINING WILL KILL ME...
SLUMP
HEY!
HELP CLEAN UP!
...


BUT IF YOU KEEP THIS UP...
...YOU'LL DEFINITELY GET STRONGER.
...
MEGURU,
WHAT DID YOU THINK ABOUT TRAINING WITH THE PROS?
I COULDN'T LAND A SINGLE MOVE...
OF COURSE NOT.
WITHOUT POWER, TECHNIQUE MEANS NOTHING.
AND WITH POWER YOU CAN BLOCK YOUR OPPONENT'S MOVES.
THE BIGGEST DIFFERENCE BETWEEN PROS AND AMATEURS...
...IS THEIR CORE STRENGTH!
STRENGTH TRAINING MIGHT BE BORING,
BUT IT'S A FUNDAMENTAL PART OF A PRO'S ROUTINE.
I SEE...

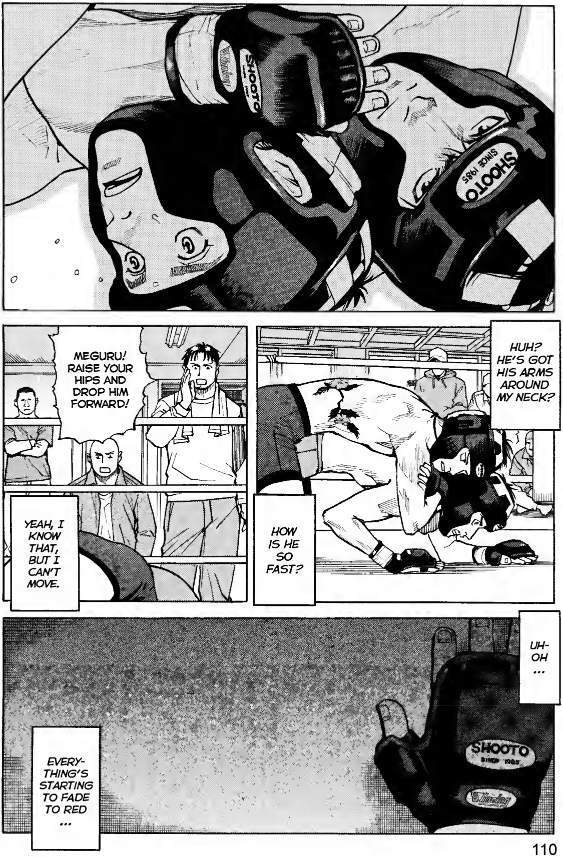

THEN IF I RUN AND LIFT WEIGHTS ALL THE TIME,
WILL I GET STRONGER?!
...
WELL, IT'S ONE THING TO BE JACKED,
BUT YOU STILL NEED TECHNIQUE.
WHICH IS IT?!
PULL
ギュッ
LET'S SEE. THE HIP THROW...
...STARTS FROM THIS POSITION, THEN...
THERE!
どんっ
THUD

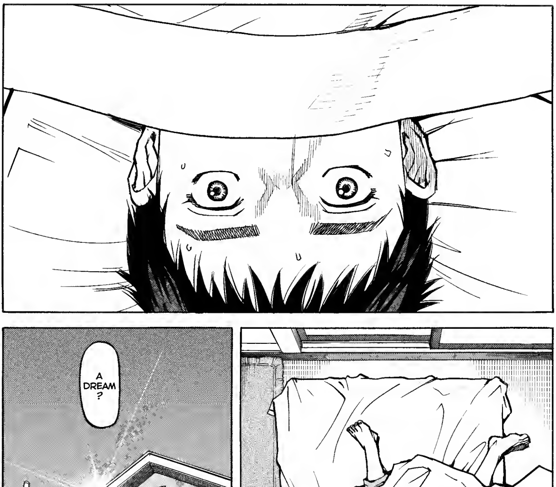

UHH... A BODY CLUTCH FROM BEHIND,
STARTS FROM HERE, THEN ...
...A QUICK SWITCH!
THUMP
THEN HOOK THE LEG OVER AND...
HEY, MEGURU!
ガ
RATTLE
IT'S THE MIDDLE OF THE NIGHT! KEEP IT DOWN, WILL YOU?!
...
WELL, YOU'RE AT THAT AGE, I GUESS. OF COURSE YOU'D BE THINKING ABOUT SEX...
W-WAIT, SIS!
IF YOU DON'T PRACTICE NOW, YOU'LL SCREW UP DURING THE REAL THING...
IT'S NOT WHAT IT LOOKS LIKE!
DON'T WORRY. I TOTALLY UNDERSTAND.

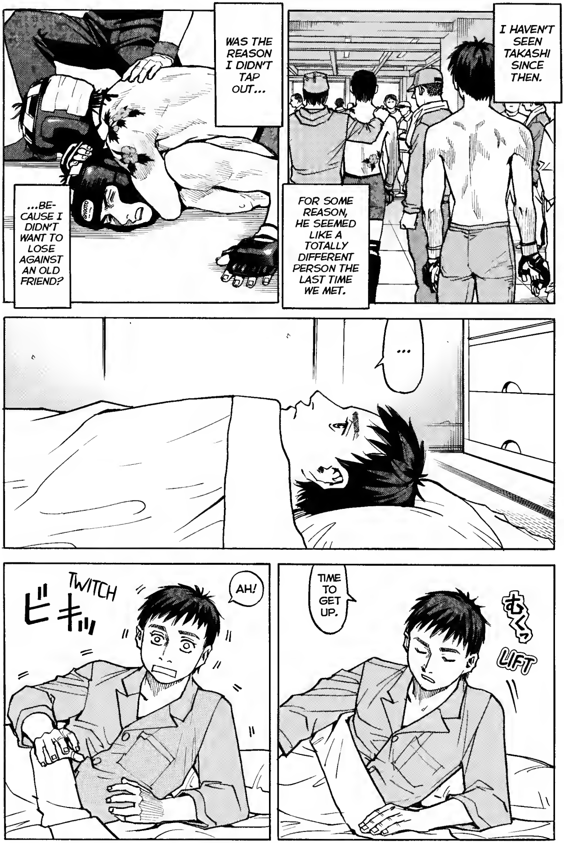


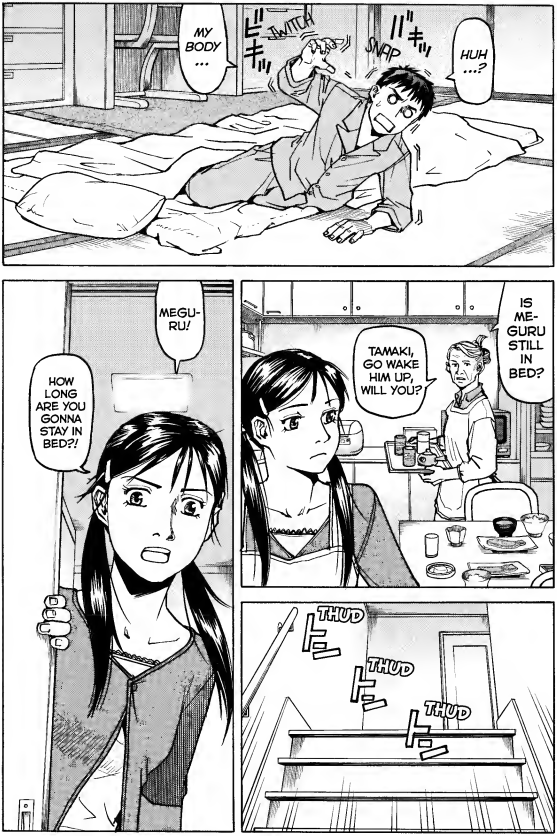
CH. 5

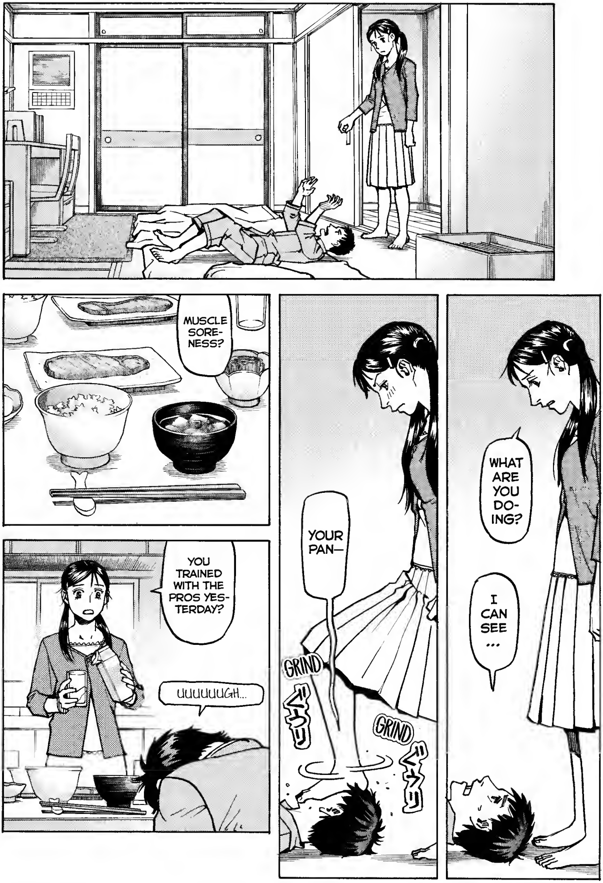
UNREQUITED LOVE

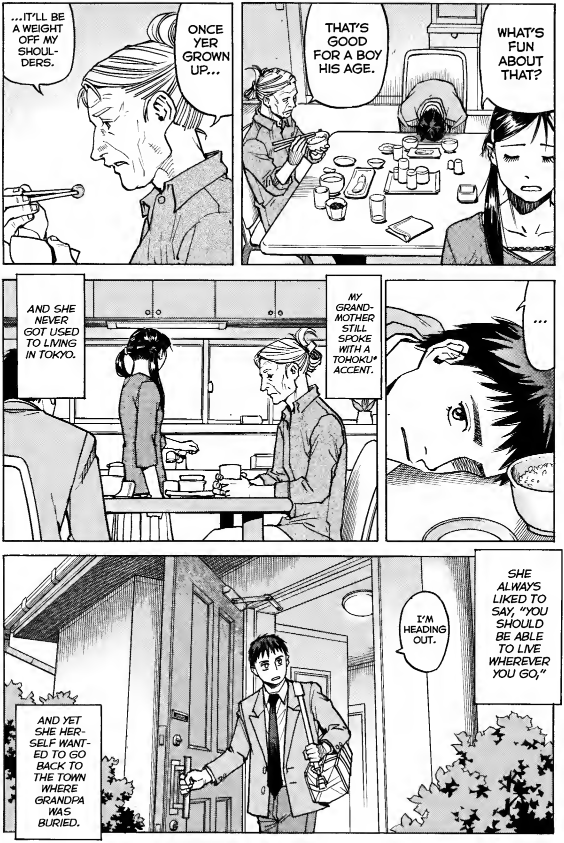

SHOOTO
SHOOTO SINCE 1985
MEGURU! RAISE YOUR HIPS AND DROP HIM FORWARD!
YEAH, I KNOW THAT, BUT I CAN'T MOVE.
HUH? HE'S GOT HIS ARMS AROUND MY NECK?
HOW IS HE SO FAST?
UH-OH ...
EVERYTHING'S STARTING TO FADE TO RED ...
SHOOTO SINCE 1985
Winning


A DREAM ?
TAKAYANAGI

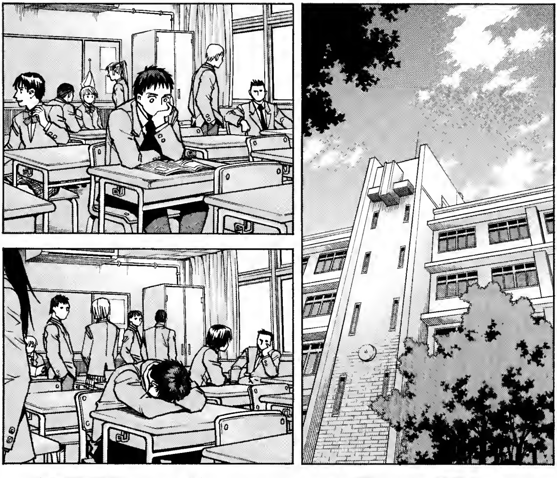

I HAVEN'T SEEN TAKASHI SINCE THEN.
FOR SOME REASON, HE SEEMED LIKE A TOTALLY DIFFERENT PERSON THE LAST TIME WE MET.
WAS THE REASON I DIDN'T TAP OUT...
...BECAUSE I DIDN'T WANT TO LOSE AGAINST AN OLD FRIEND?
...
むくっ
LIFT
TIME TO GET UP.
AH!
ビキッ
TWITCH

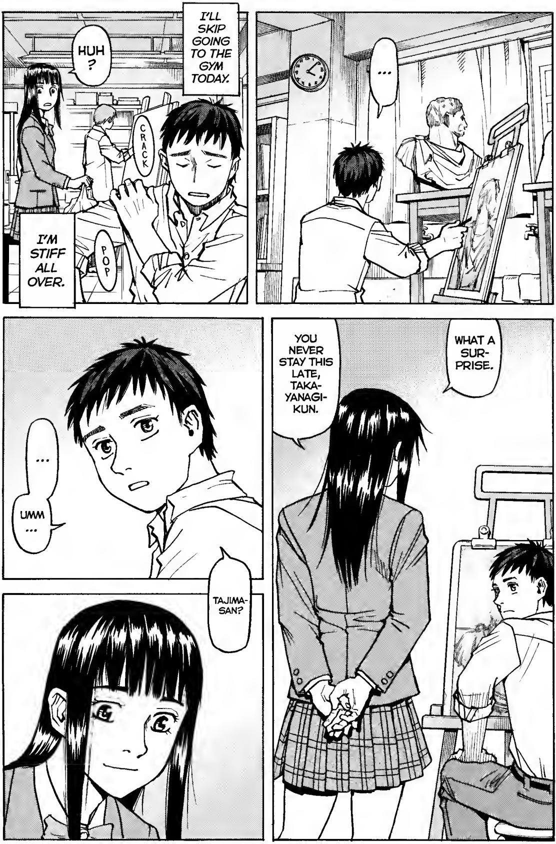

HUH ...?
バキッ
SNAP
ビキッ
TWITCH
MY BODY ...
IS ME-GURU STILL IN BED?
TAMAKI, GO WAKE HIM UP, WILL YOU?
トン
THUD
トン
THUD
トン
THUD
MEGU-RU!
HOW LONG ARE YOU GONNA STAY IN BED?!

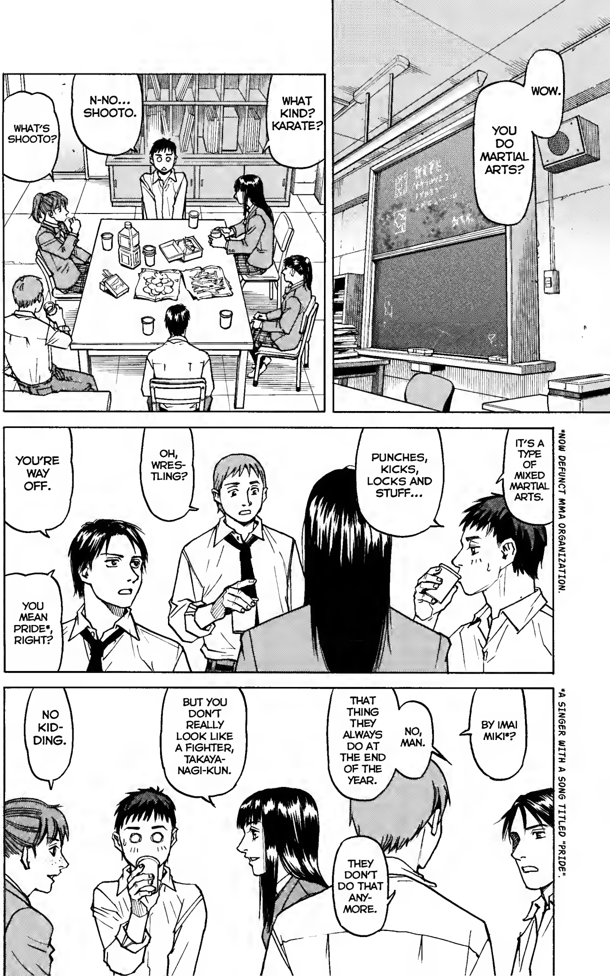

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
I CAN SEE ...
YOUR PAN—
GRIND
ぐりり
GRIND
ぐりり
MUSCLE SORENESS?
YOU TRAINED WITH THE PROS YESTERDAY?
UUUUUUGH...


WHAT'S FUN ABOUT THAT?
THAT'S GOOD FOR A BOY HIS AGE.
ONCE YER GROWN UP...
...IT'LL BE A WEIGHT OFF MY SHOULDERS.
...
MY GRANDMOTHER STILL SPOKE WITH A TOHOKU* ACCENT.
AND SHE NEVER GOT USED TO LIVING IN TOKYO.
SHE ALWAYS LIKED TO SAY, "YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO LIVE WHEREVER YOU GO,"
I'M HEADING OUT.
AND YET SHE HERSELF WANTED TO GO BACK TO THE TOWN WHERE GRANDPA WAS BURIED.

*NORTHEAST JAPAN

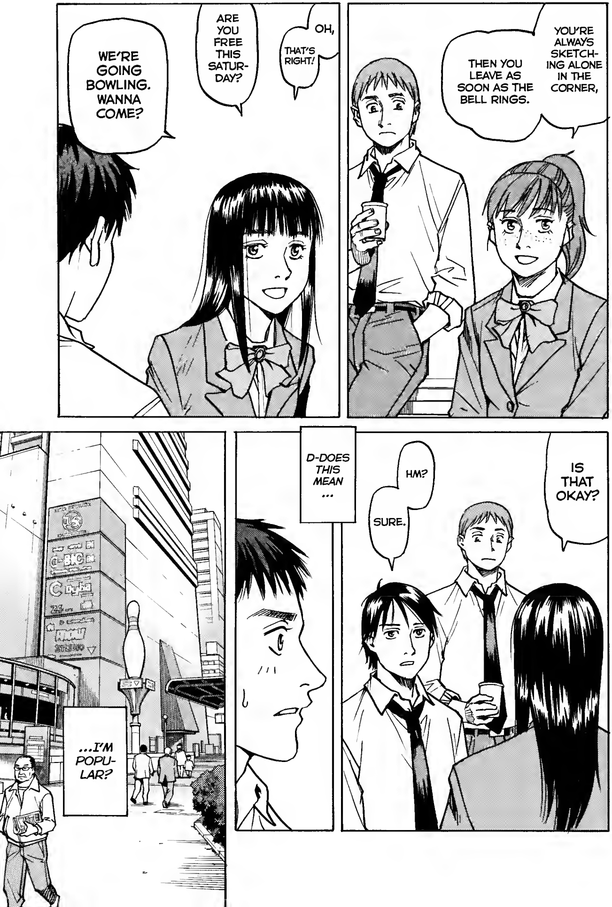

ART ROOM

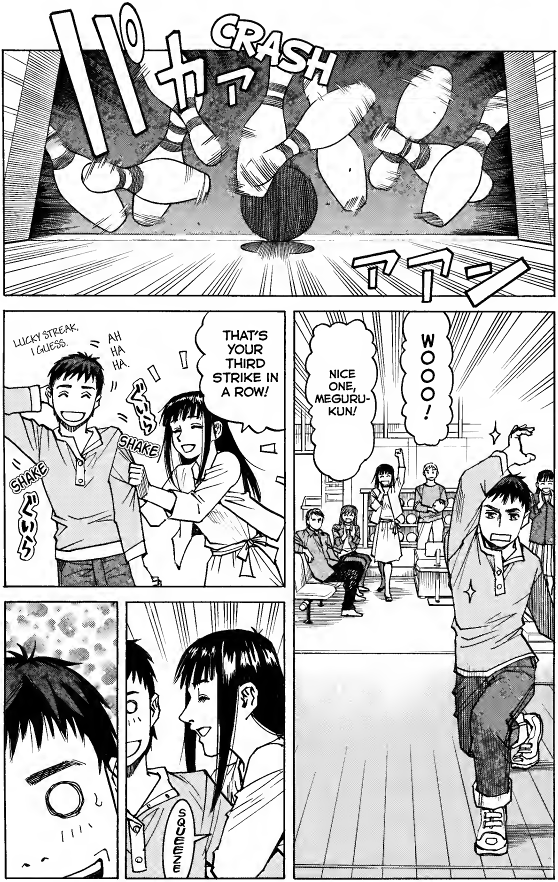

...
I'LL SKIP GOING TO THE GYM TODAY.
HUH?
CRACK
I'M STIFF ALL OVER.
POP
WHAT A SURPRISE.
YOU NEVER STAY THIS LATE, TAKAYANAGI-KUN.
...
UMM...
TAJIMA-SAN?

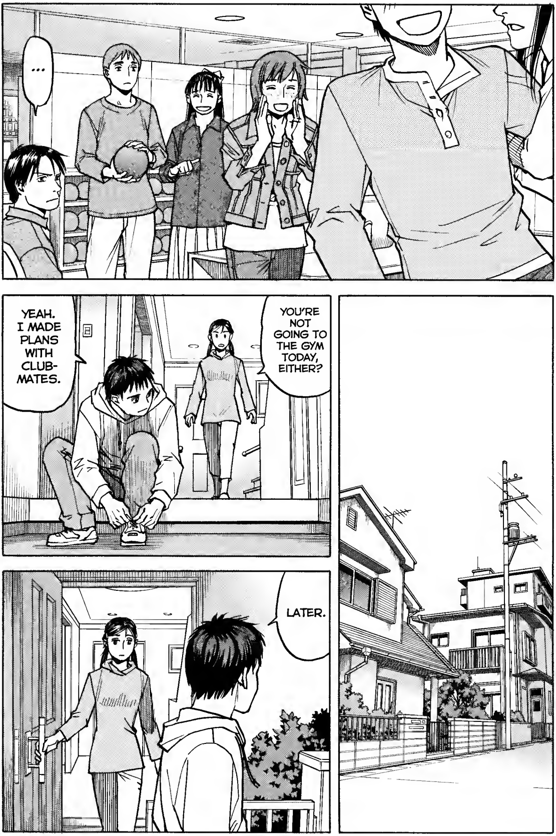

WOW.
YOU DO MARTIAL ARTS?
WHAT KIND? KARATE?
N-NO... SHOOTO.
WHAT'S SHOOTO?
IT'S A TYPE OF MIXED MARTIAL ARTS.
PUNCHES, KICKS, LOCKS AND STUFF...
OH, WRESTLING?
YOU'RE WAY OFF.
YOU MEAN PRIDE*, RIGHT?
BY IMAI MIKI*?
NO, MAN.
THAT THING THEY ALWAYS DO AT THE END OF THE YEAR.
THEY DON'T DO THAT ANYMORE.
BUT YOU DON'T REALLY LOOK LIKE A FIGHTER, TAKAYANAGI-KUN.
NO KIDDING.

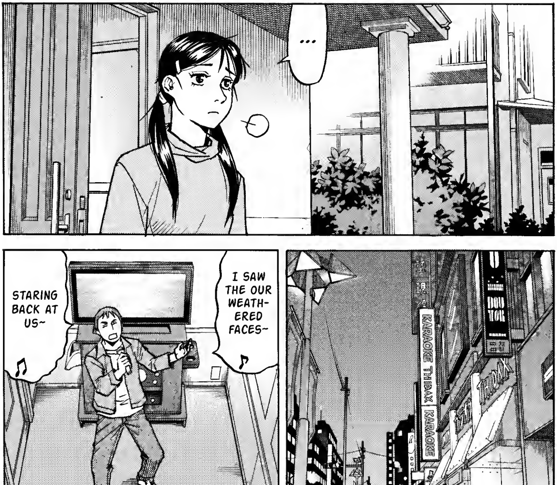
*NOW DEFUNCT MMA ORGANIZATION.

*A SINGER WITH A SONG TITLED "PRIDE".

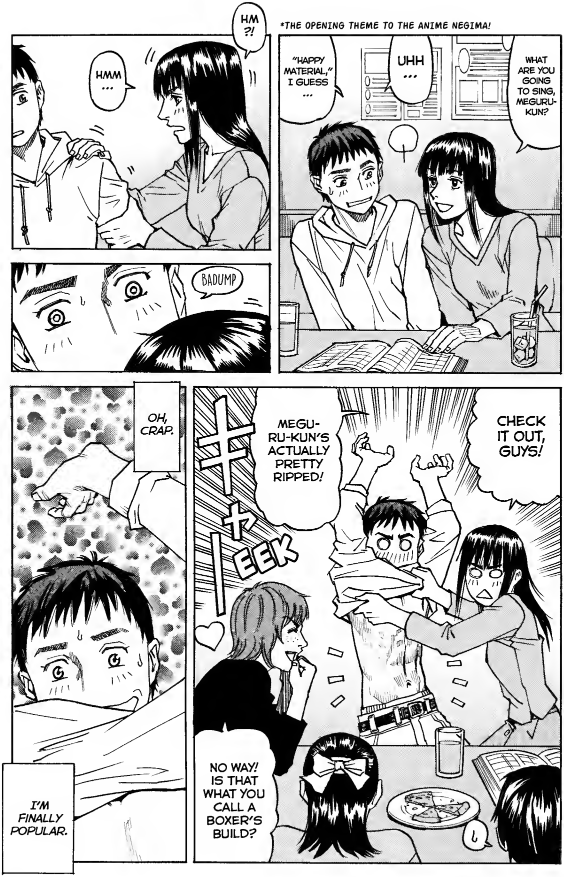

YOU'RE ALWAYS SKETCHING ALONE IN THE CORNER,
THEN YOU LEAVE AS SOON AS THE BELL RINGS.
OH, THAT'S RIGHT!
ARE YOU FREE THIS SATURDAY?
WE'RE GOING BOWLING. WANNA COME?
IS THAT OKAY?
HM?
SURE.
D-DOES THIS MEAN ...
...I'M POPULAR?


パカァ
CRASH
アアン
WOOOO!
NICE ONE, MEGURU-KUN!
THAT'S YOUR THIRD STRIKE IN A ROW!
ぐいら
SHAKE
SHAKE
ぐいら
LUCKY STREAK, I GUESS.
AH HA HA.
SQUEEZE

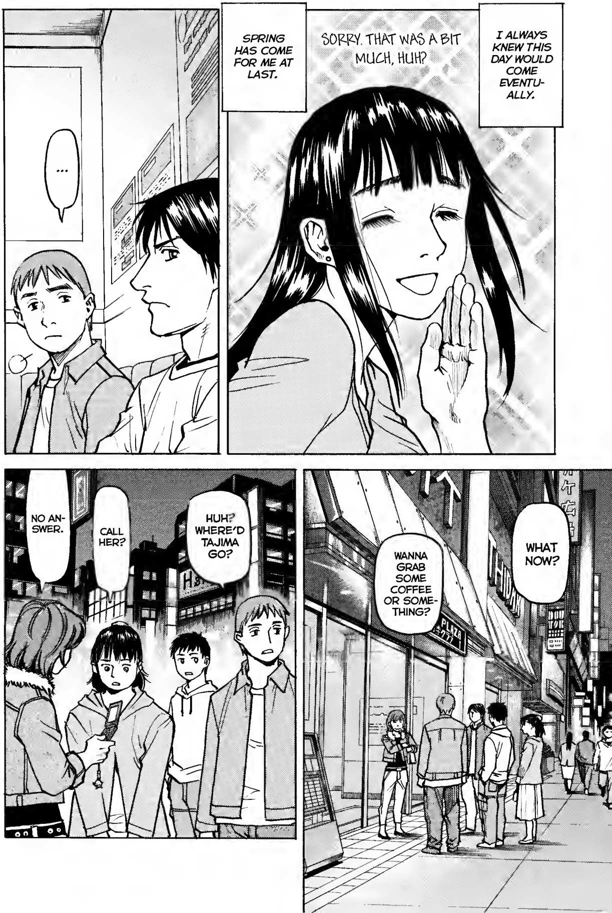

...
YOU'RE NOT GOING TO THE GYM TODAY, EITHER?
YEAH. I MADE PLANS WITH CLUBMATES.
LATER.

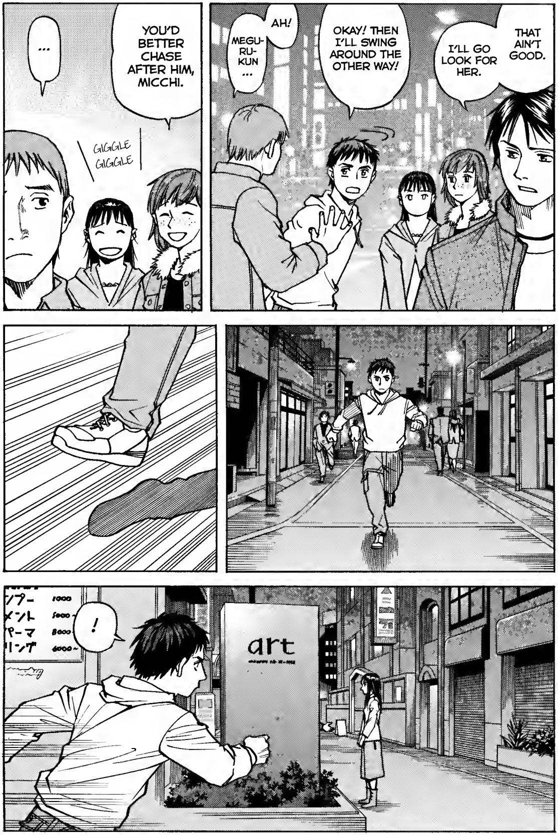

…
KARAOKE THIDAX KARAOKE
THIDAX
I SAW THE OUR WEATHERED FACES~
STARING BACK AT US~
WOO-HOO!
IN THE HOLLOW OF A WARM SPOON~
FORMED A SMALL PUDDLE OF THE NIGHT~

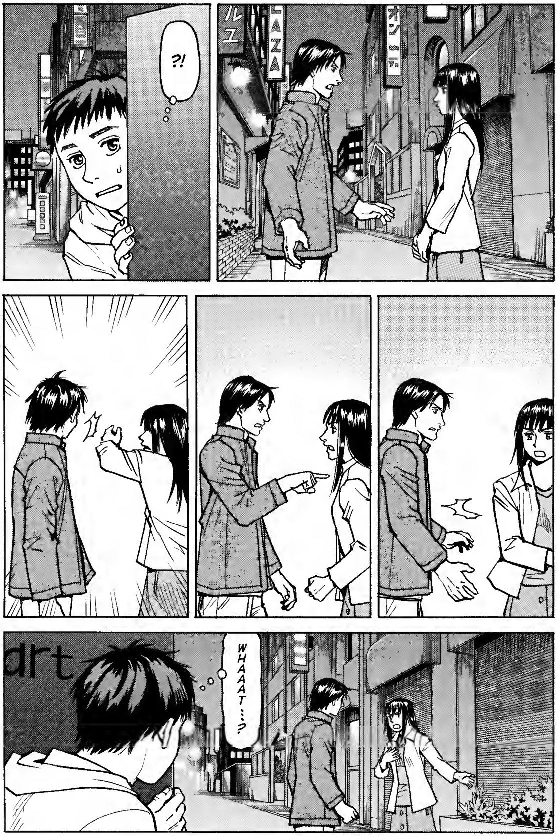
*"YORU NO MIZUTAMARI" BY OMOKAGE LUCKY HOLE

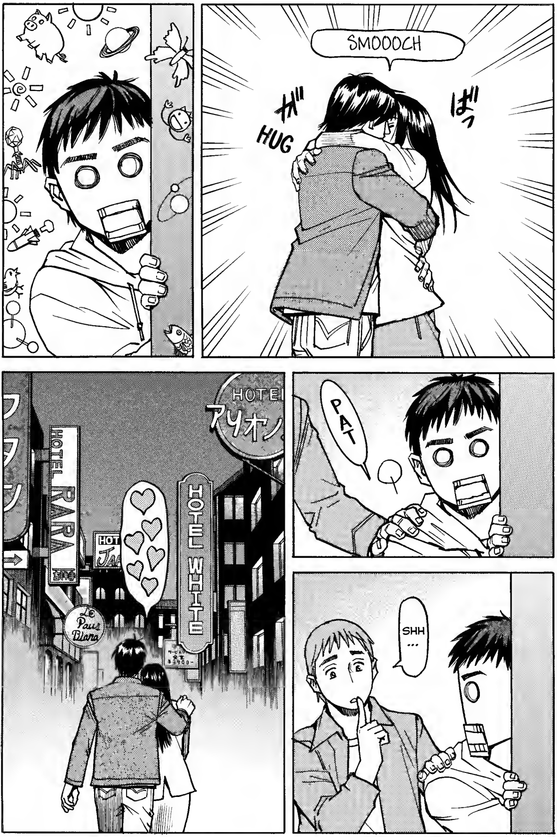

WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO SING, MEGURU-KUN?
UHH ...
"HAPPY MATERIAL," I GUESS ...
HM ?!
HMM ...
BADUMP
CHECK IT OUT, GUYS!
MEGU-RU-KUN'S ACTUALLY PRETTY RIPPED!
キャー
EEK
NO WAY! IS THAT WHAT YOU CALL A BOXER'S BUILD?
OH, CRAP.
I'M FINALLY POPULAR.

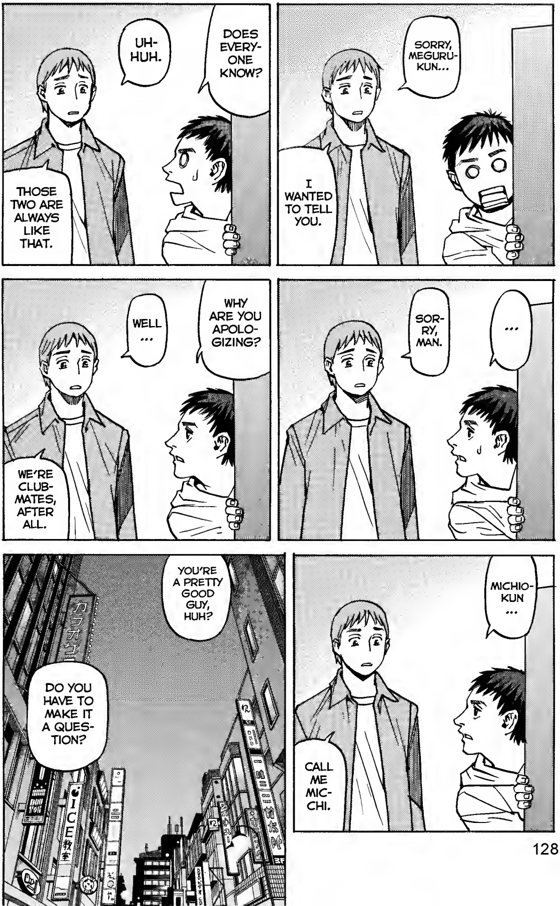
*THE OPENING THEME TO THE ANIME NEGIMA!

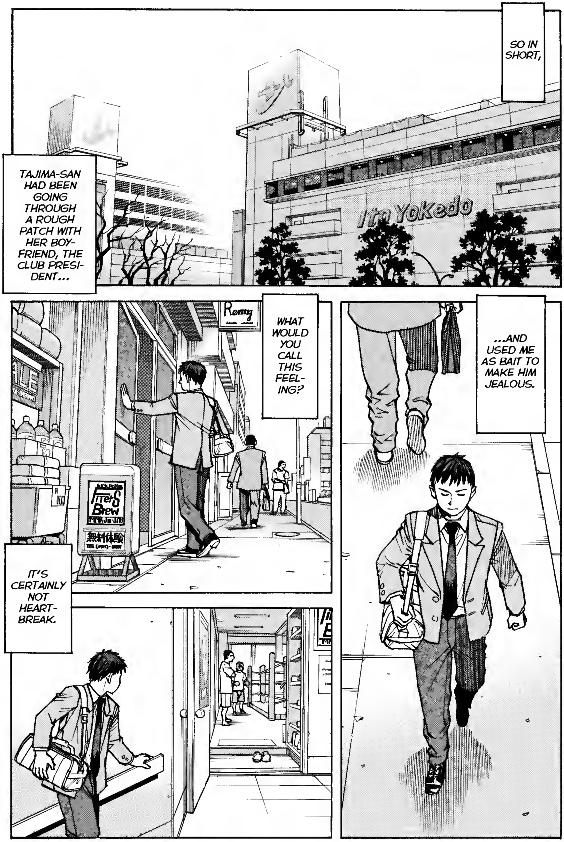

I ALWAYS KNEW THIS DAY WOULD COME EVENTUALLY.
SORRY. THAT WAS A BIT MUCH, HUH?
SPRING HAS COME FOR ME AT LAST.
...
WHAT NOW?
WANNA GRAB SOME COFFEE OR SOMETHING?
PLAZA
HUH? WHERE'D TAJIMA GO?
CALL HER?
NO ANSWER.

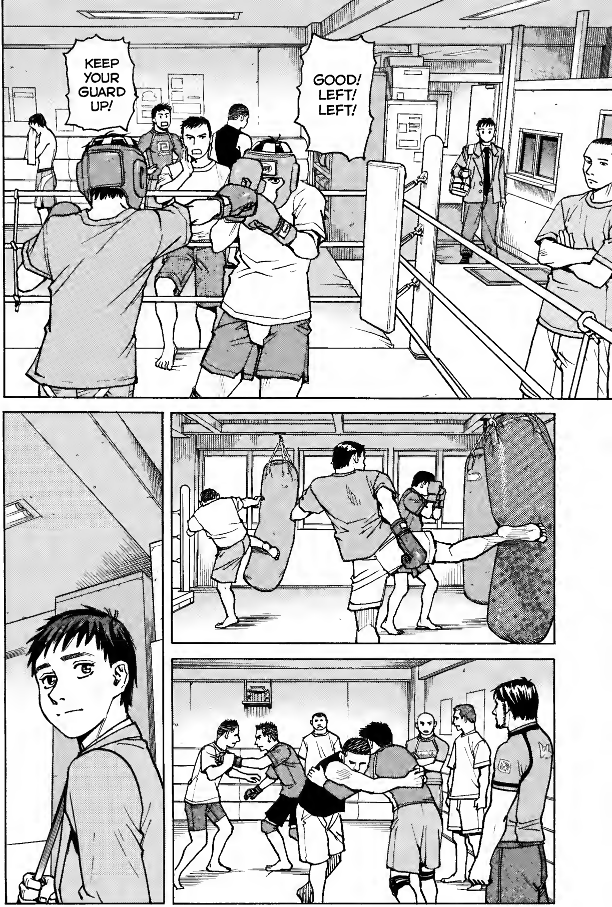

THAT AIN'T GOOD.
I'LL GO LOOK FOR HER.
OKAY! THEN I'LL SWING AROUND THE OTHER WAY!
AH!
MEGU-RU-KUN ...
YOU'D BETTER CHASE AFTER HIM, MICCHI.
...
GIGGLE GIGGLE
!
art
ンプー 1000
メント 5000~
パーマ 8000
リング 6000~

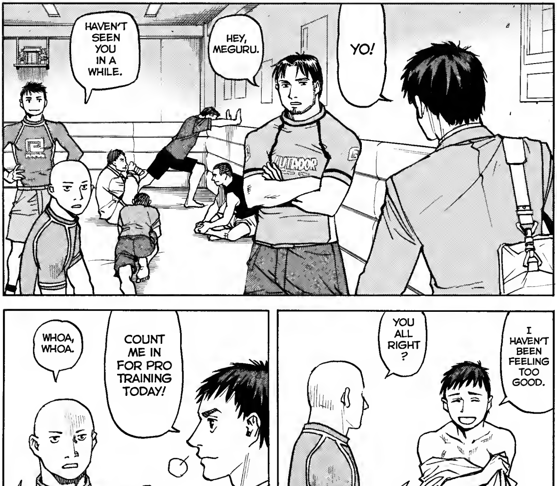

?!
ルエ
LAZA
WHAAAT...?
art

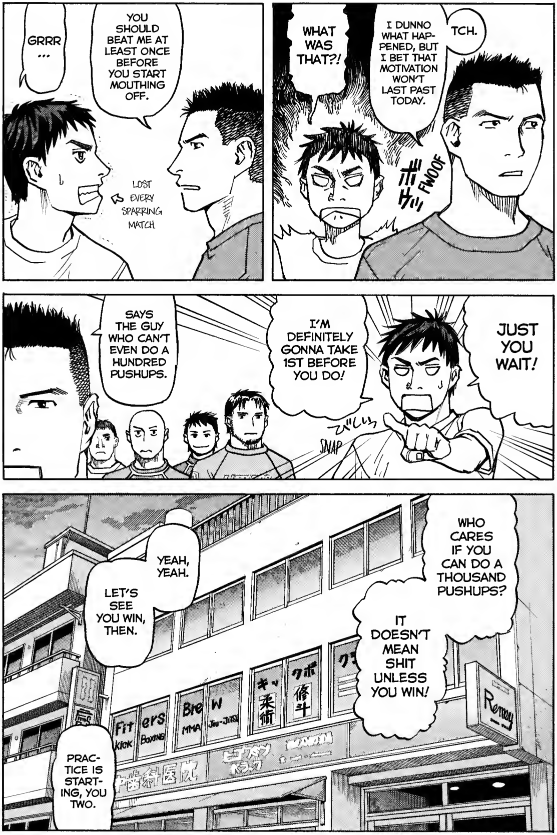

SMOOOCH
ぼっ
ガ
HUG
PAT
SHH ...
HOTEL
HOTEL RARA
HOTEL WHITE


SORRY, MEGURU-KUN...
I WANTED TO TELL YOU.
DOES EVERYONE KNOW?
UH-HUH.
THOSE TWO ARE ALWAYS LIKE THAT.
...
SORRY, MAN.
WHY ARE YOU APOLOGIZING?
WELL ...
WE'RE CLUBMATES, AFTER ALL.
MICHIO-KUN ...
CALL ME MICCHI.
YOU'RE A PRETTY GOOD GUY, HUH?
DO YOU HAVE TO MAKE IT A QUESTION?
ICE 教室


SO IN SHORT,
TAJIMA-SAN HAD BEEN GOING THROUGH A ROUGH PATCH WITH HER BOYFRIEND, THE CLUB PRESIDENT...
I'to YoKedo
...AND USED ME AS BAIT TO MAKE HIM JEALOUS.
WHAT WOULD YOU CALL THIS FEELING?
FiterS Brew
無料体験
IT'S CERTAINLY NOT HEARTBREAK.

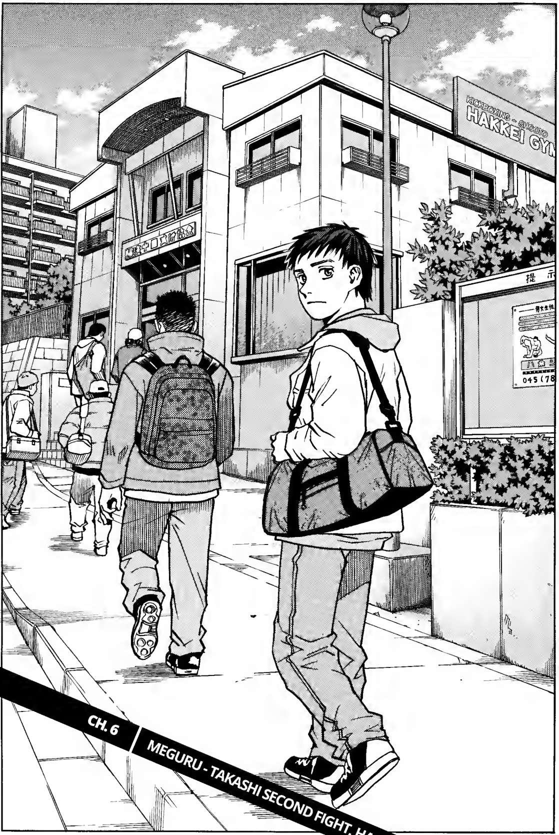

GOOD! LEFT! LEFT!
KEEP YOUR GUARD UP!

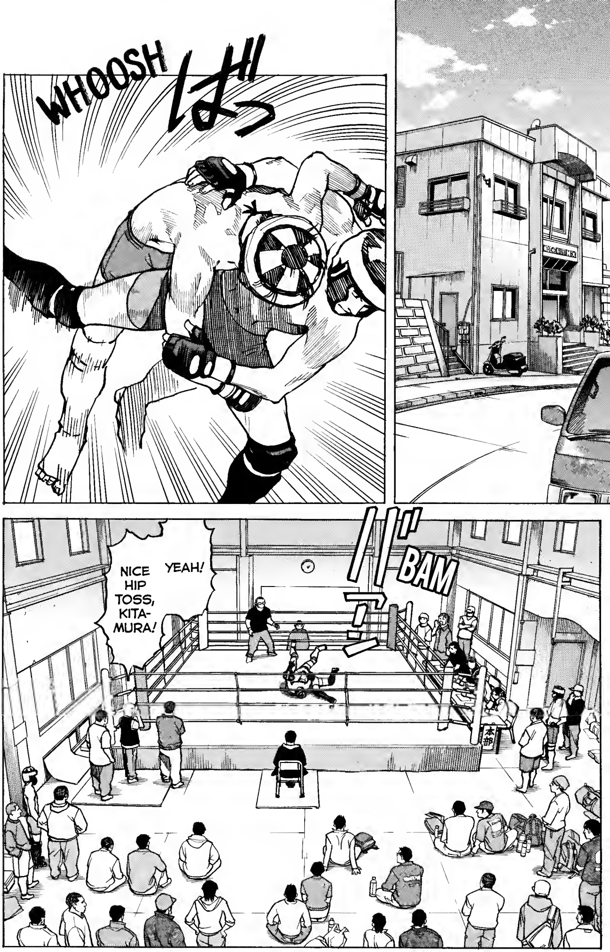

YO!
HEY, MEGURU.
HAVEN'T SEEN YOU IN A WHILE.
I HAVEN'T BEEN FEELING TOO GOOD.
YOU ALL RIGHT?
YEAH, I'M FINE NOW.
COUNT ME IN FOR PRO TRAINING TODAY!
WHOA, WHOA.
GETTIN' FIRED UP ALL OF A SUDDEN?
I'M GONNA DO IT!
I'M AIMING TO TAKE 1ST AT THE AMATEUR SHOOTO NATIONALS NEXT YEAR!
CLENCH
CLAP
CLAP
WOW.
CLAP
GO FOR IT.

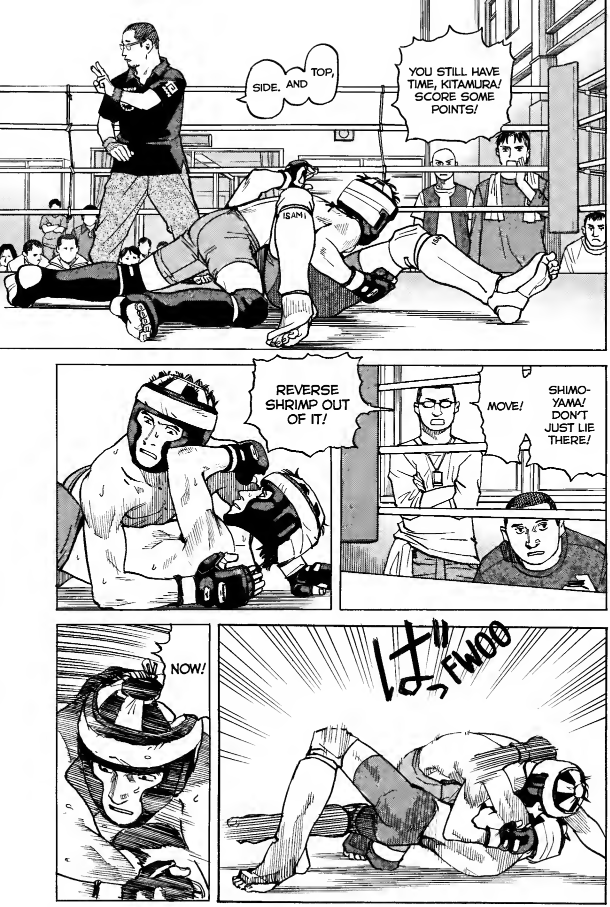

I DUNNO WHAT HAPPENED, BUT I BET THAT MOTIVATION WON'T LAST PAST TODAY.
WHAT WAS THAT?!
ボッ FWOOF
TCH.
YOU SHOULD BEAT ME AT LEAST ONCE BEFORE YOU START MOUTHING OFF.
GRRR...
LOST EVERY SPARRING MATCH.
JUST YOU WAIT!
I'M DEFINITELY GONNA TAKE 1ST BEFORE YOU DO!
びしっ SNAP
SAYS THE GUY WHO CAN'T EVEN DO A HUNDRED PUSHUPS.
WHO CARES IF YOU CAN DO A THOUSAND PUSHUPS?
IT DOESN'T MEAN SHIT UNLESS YOU WIN!
YEAH, YEAH.
LET'S SEE YOU WIN, THEN.
PRACTICE IS STARTING, YOU TWO.
Fitters Kick Boxing
Brew MMA Jiu-Jitsu
キック 柔術
クボ 修斗
Remy

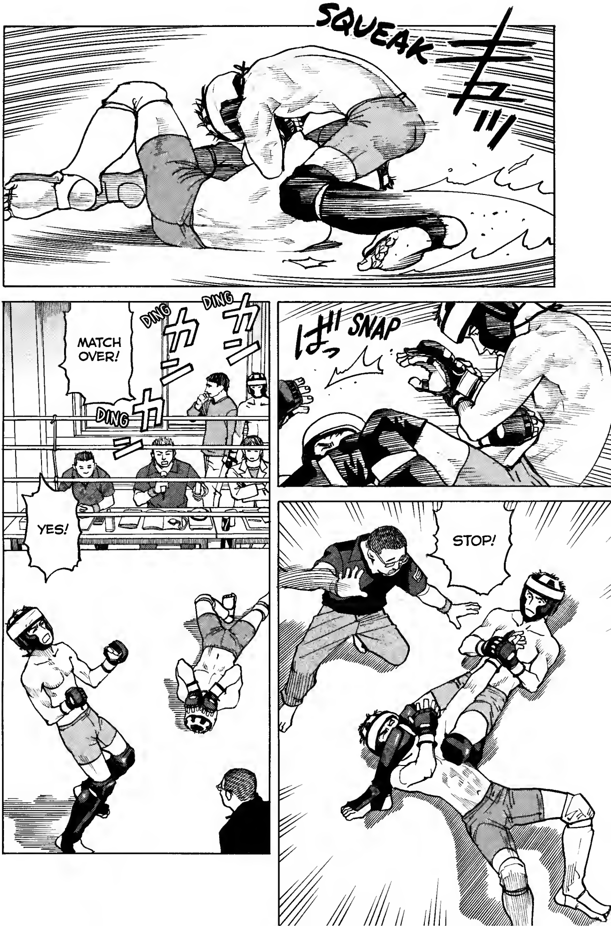
CH. 6

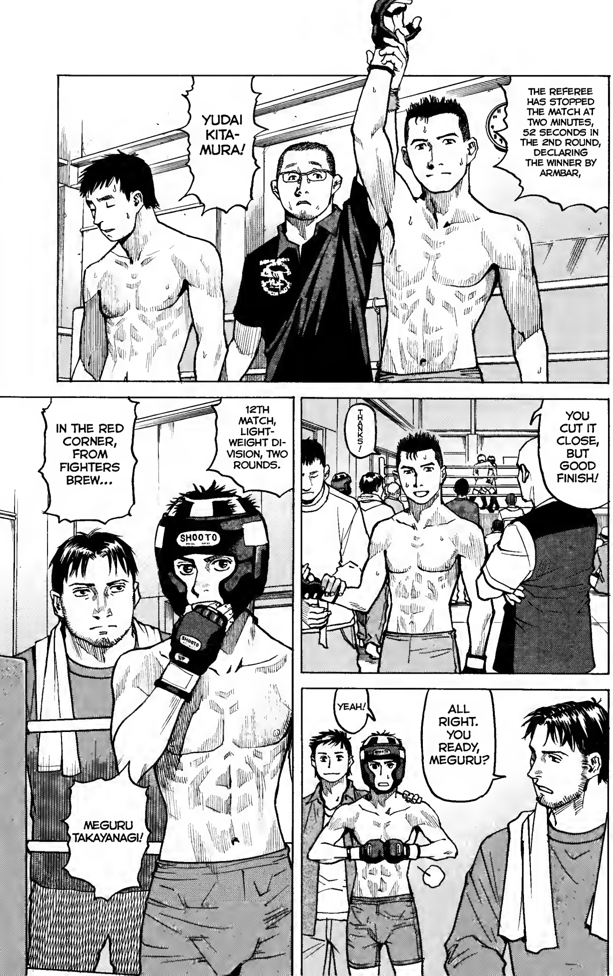
MEGURU - TAKASHI SECOND FIGHT, HAKKEI GYM

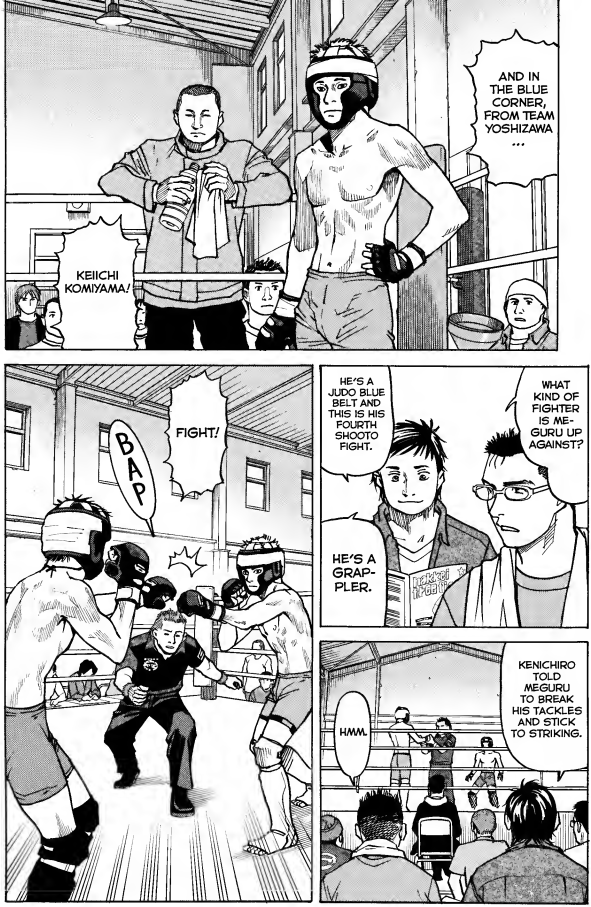

KICKBOXING - SHOOTO
HAKKEI GYM
提示
045 (78

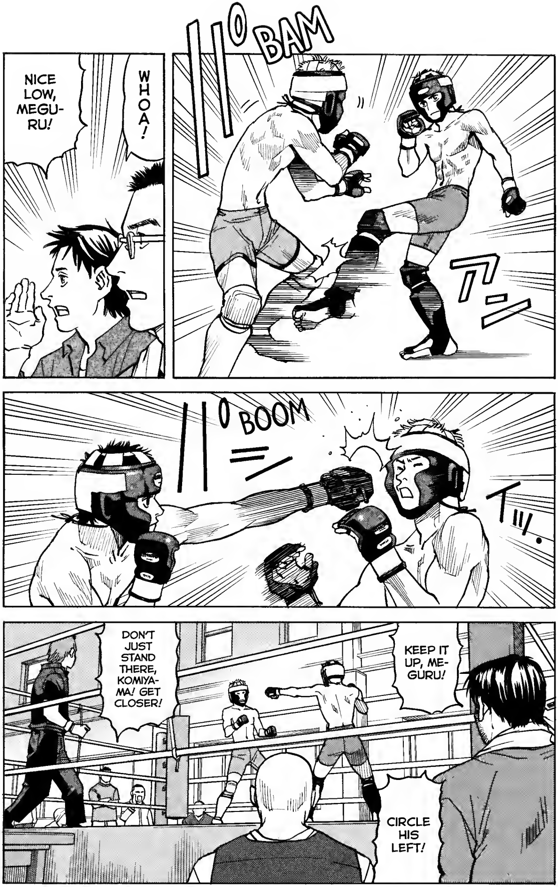

WHOOSH
はっ
BAM
NICE HIP TOSS, KITAMURA!
YEAH!
本部

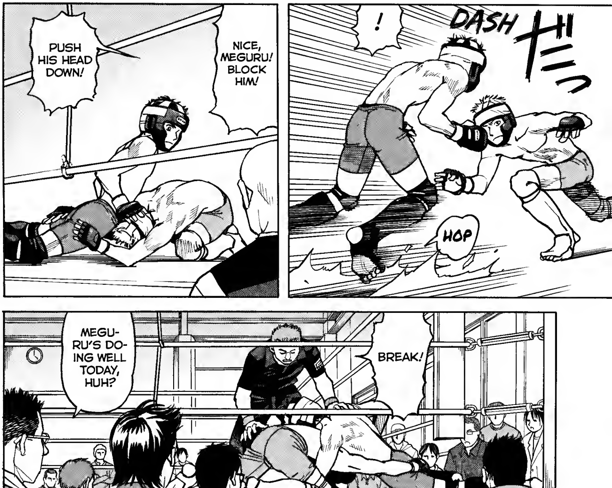

TOP, AND SIDE.
YOU STILL HAVE TIME, KITAMURA! SCORE SOME POINTS!
ISAMI
ISAMI
REVERSE SHRIMP OUT OF IT!
SHIMO-YAMA! DON'T JUST LIE THERE!
MOVE!
NOW!
ばっ
FWOO

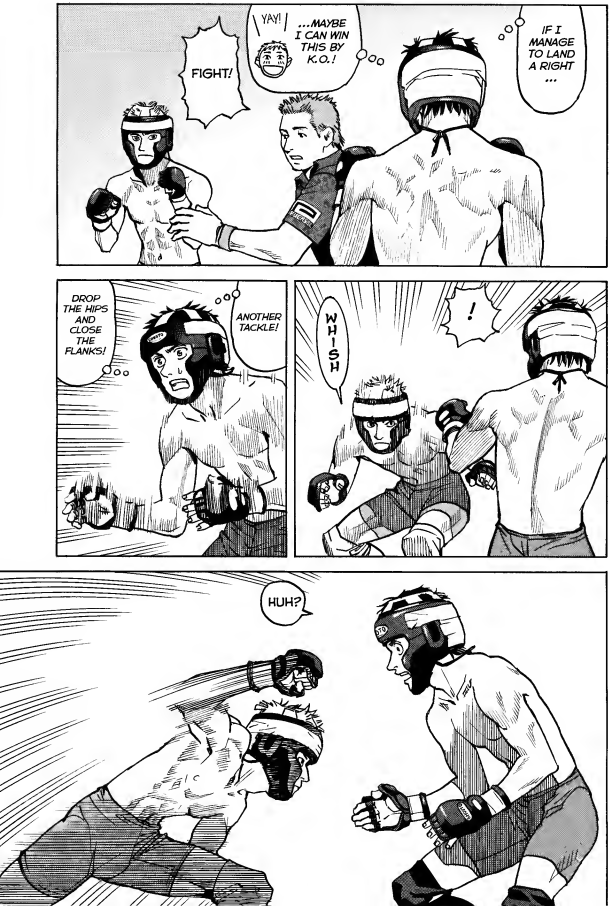

SQUEAK
キュッ
ばっ
SNAP
STOP!
DING
カン
DING
カン
DING
カン
MATCH OVER!
YES!

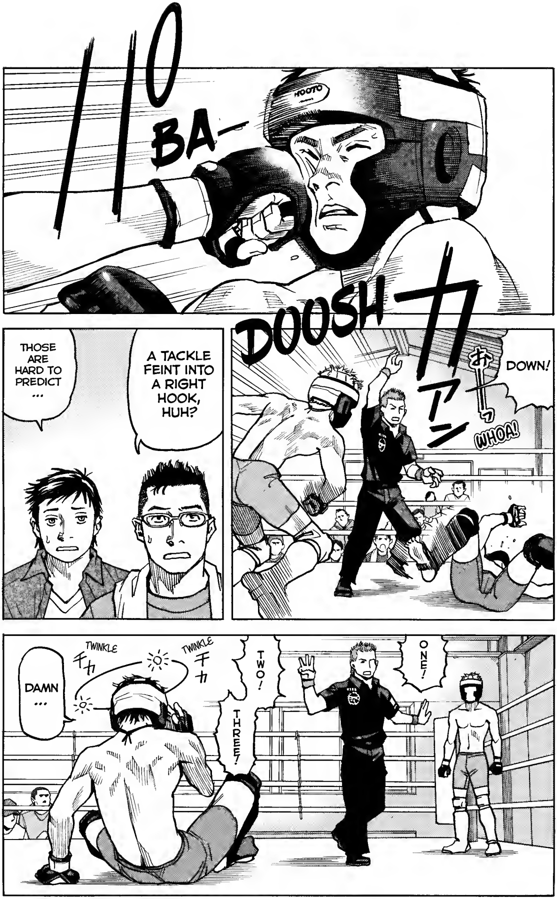

THE REFEREE HAS STOPPED THE MATCH AT TWO MINUTES, 52 SECONDS IN THE 2ND ROUND, DECLARING THE WINNER BY ARMBAR,
YUDAI KITAMURA!
YOU CUT IT CLOSE, BUT GOOD FINISH!
THANKS!
ALL RIGHT. YOU READY, MEGURU?
YEAH!
12TH MATCH, LIGHTWEIGHT DIVISION, TWO ROUNDS.
IN THE RED CORNER, FROM FIGHTERS BREW...
MEGURU TAKAYANAGI!
SHOOTO

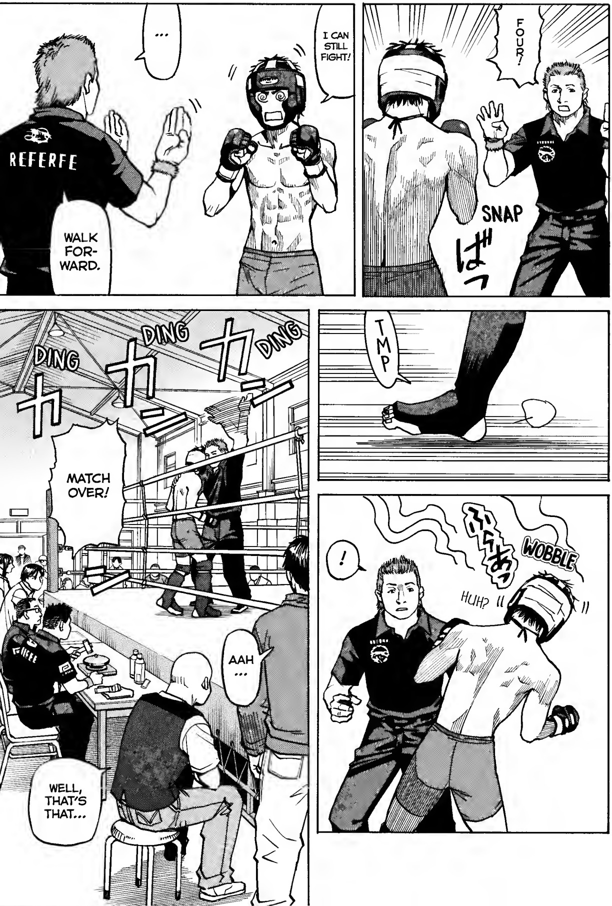

AND IN THE BLUE CORNER, FROM TEAM YOSHIZAWA ...
KEIICHI KOMIYAMA!
WHAT KIND OF FIGHTER IS MEGURU UP AGAINST?
HE'S A JUDO BLUE BELT AND THIS IS HIS FOURTH SHOOTO FIGHT.
HE'S A GRAPPLER.
KENICHIRO TOLD MEGURU TO BREAK HIS TACKLES AND STICK TO STRIKING.
HMM.
FIGHT!
BAP

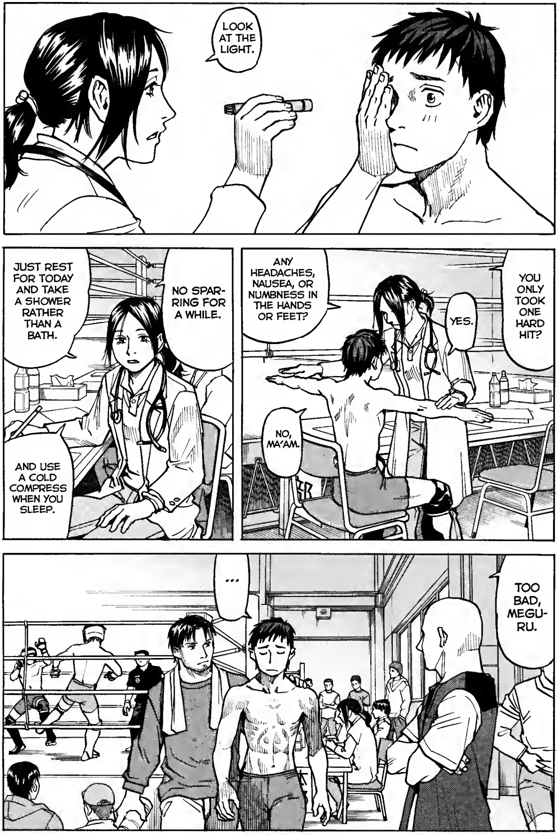

BAM
アン
WHOA!
NICE LOW, MEGURU!
BOOM
KEEP IT UP, MEGURU!
CIRCLE HIS LEFT!
DON'T JUST STAND THERE, KOMIYAMA! GET CLOSER!

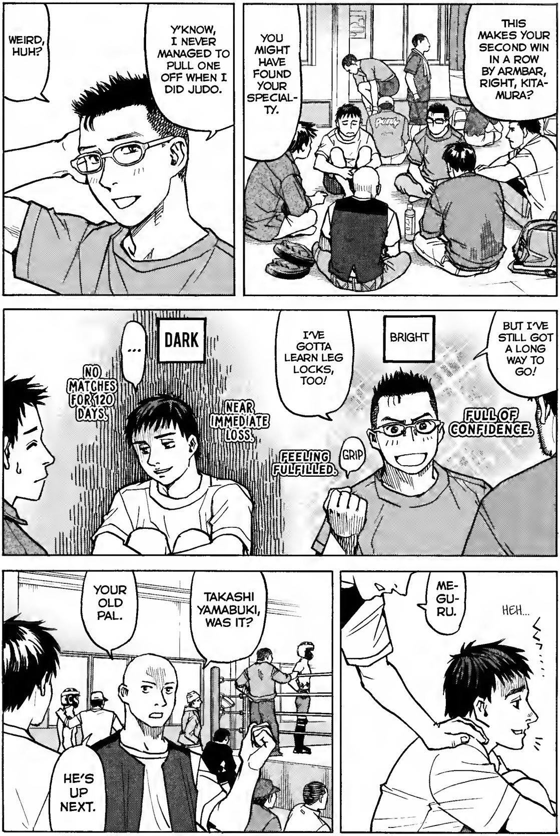

PUSH HIS HEAD DOWN!
NICE, MEGURU! BLOCK HIM!
!
DASH
ダッ
HOP
MEGU-RU'S DO-ING WELL TODAY, HUH?
BREAK!
MY JABS AND LOW KICKS ARE LANDING,
AND I'M BREAKING HIS TACK-LES JUST FINE!
I CAN DO THIS!
SHOOTO

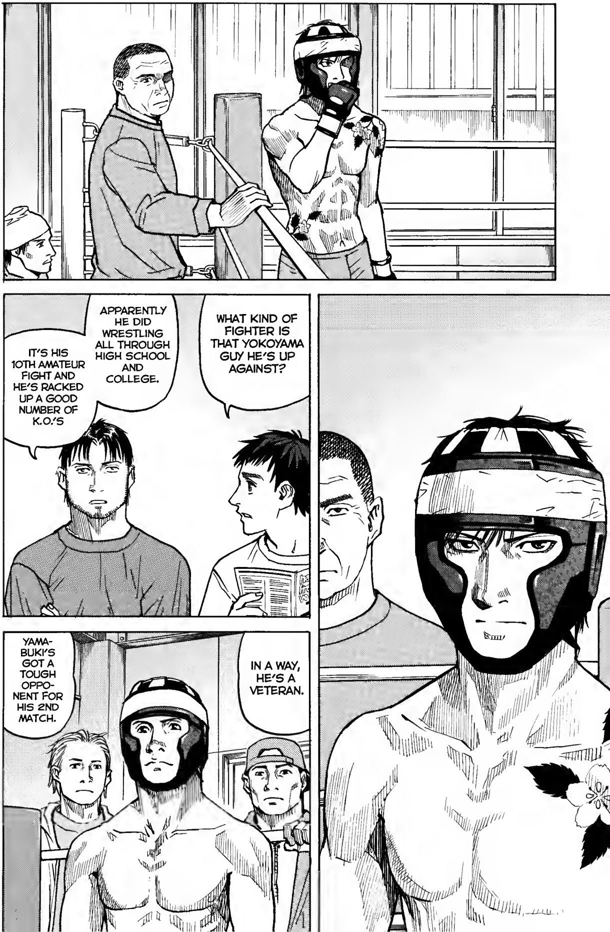

FIGHT!
IF I MANAGE TO LAND A RIGHT ...
...MAYBE I CAN WIN THIS BY K.O.!
YAY!
WHISH
!
ANOTHER TACKLE!
DROP THE HIPS AND CLOSE THE FLANKS!
HUH?

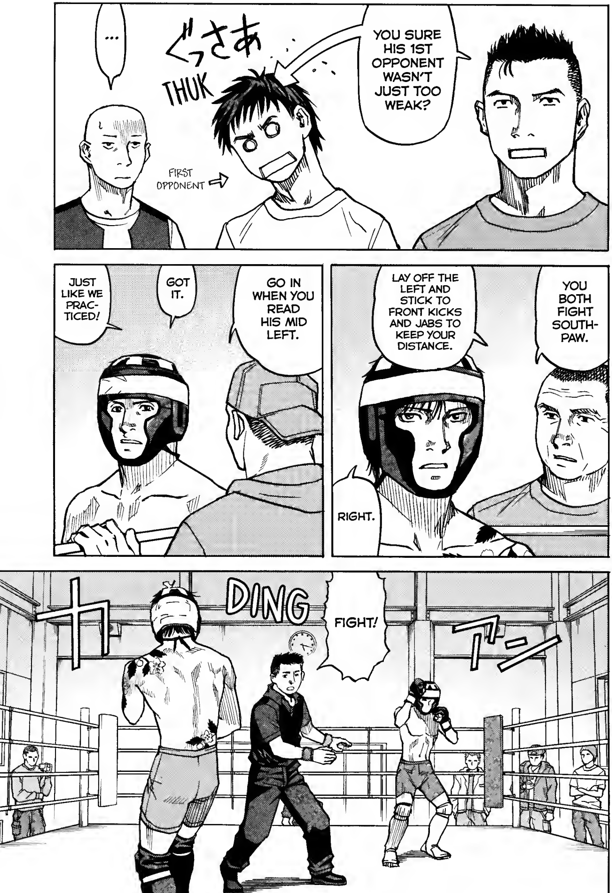

BA—
DOOSH
カァン
DOWN!
おぉっ
WHOA!
A TACKLE FEINT INTO A RIGHT HOOK, HUH?
THOSE ARE HARD TO PREDICT...
ONE!
TWO!
THREE!
TWINKLE チカ
TWINKLE チカ
DAMN...

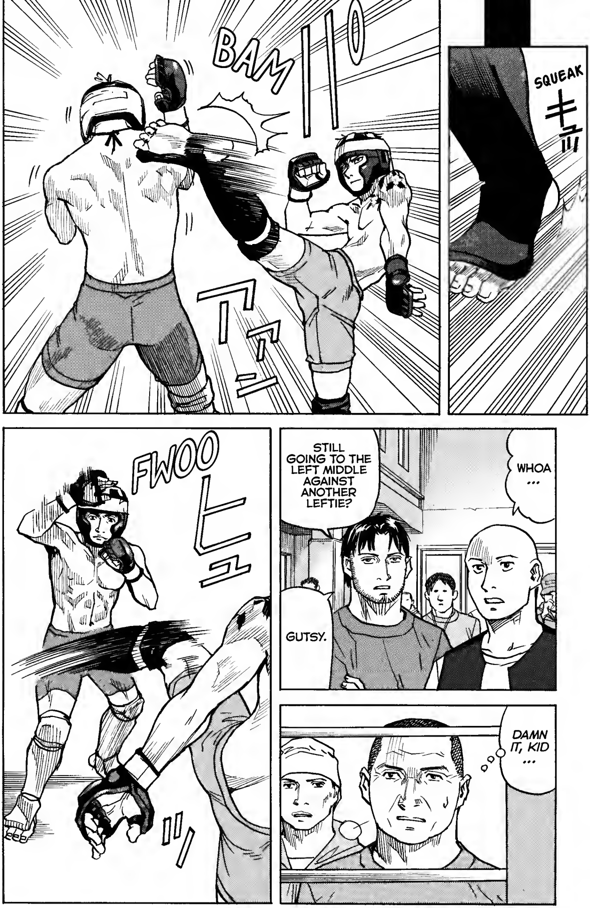

FOUR!
SNAP
ばっ
I CAN STILL FIGHT!
...
REFERFE
WALK FORWARD.
TMP
!
ふらぁっ
WOBBLE
HUH?
DING
カ
カ
カ
DING
DING
MATCH OVER!
AAH...
WELL, THAT'S THAT...

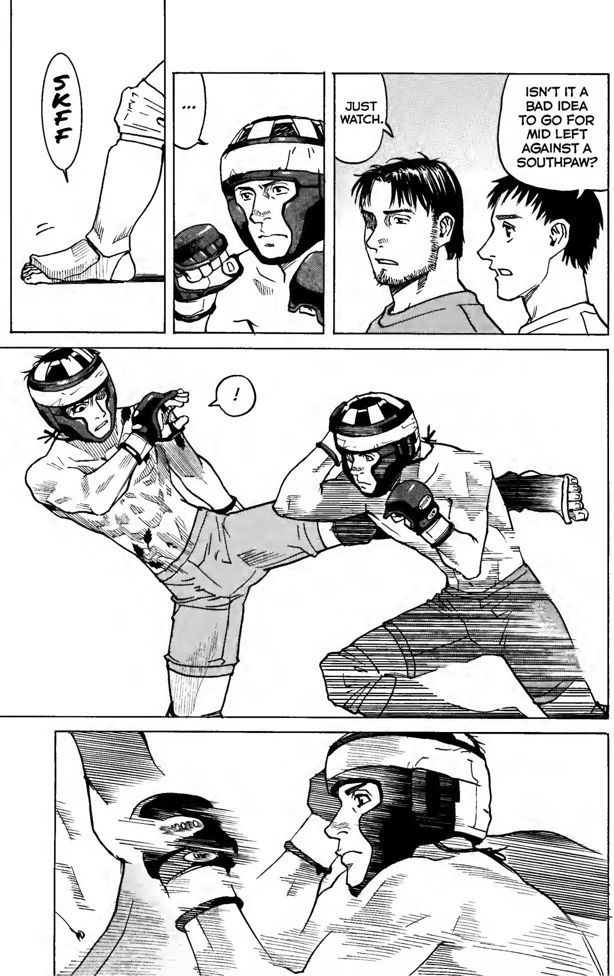

LOOK AT THE LIGHT.
YOU ONLY TOOK ONE HARD HIT?
YES.
ANY HEADACHES, NAUSEA, OR NUMBNESS IN THE HANDS OR FEET?
NO, MA'AM.
NO SPARRING FOR A WHILE.
JUST REST FOR TODAY AND TAKE A SHOWER RATHER THAN A BATH.
AND USE A COLD COMPRESS WHEN YOU SLEEP.
TOO BAD, MEGURU.
...

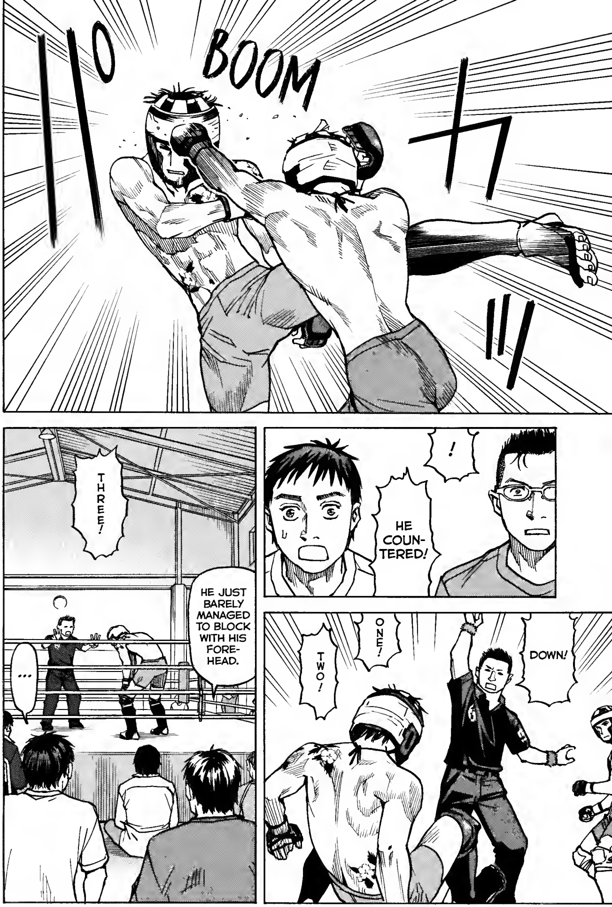

THIS MAKES YOUR SECOND WIN IN A ROW BY ARMBAR, RIGHT, KITAMURA?
YOU MIGHT HAVE FOUND YOUR SPECIALTY.
Y'KNOW, I NEVER MANAGED TO PULL ONE OFF WHEN I DID JUDO.
WEIRD, HUH?
BUT I'VE STILL GOT A LONG WAY TO GO!
BRIGHT
FULL OF CONFIDENCE.
I'VE GOTTA LEARN LEG LOCKS, TOO!
GRIP
FEELING FULFILLED.
DARK
...
NEAR IMMEDIATE LOSS.
NO MATCHES FOR 120 DAYS.
MEGURU.
HEH...
TAKASHI YAMABUKI, WAS IT?
YOUR OLD PAL.
HE'S UP NEXT.

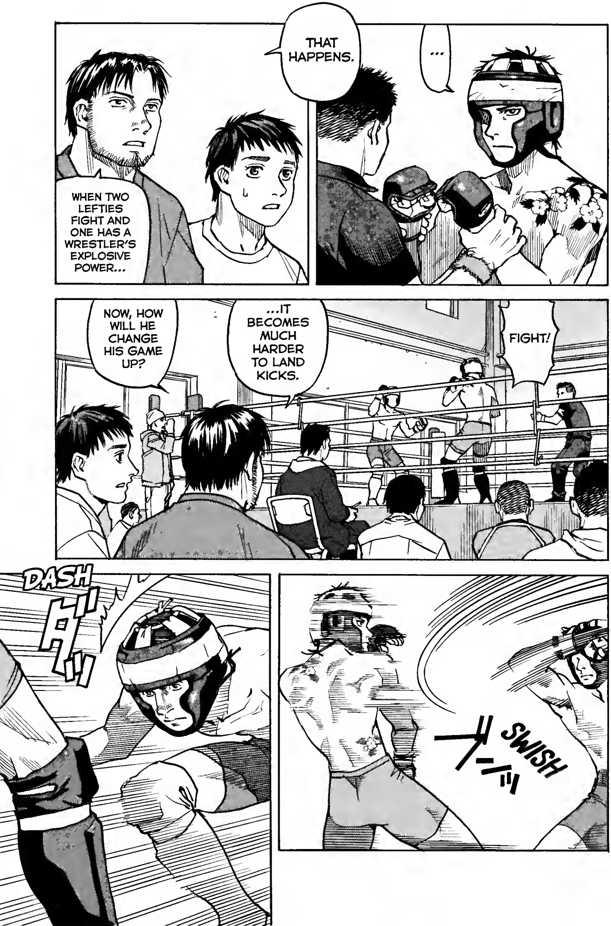

WHAT KIND OF FIGHTER IS THAT YOKOYAMA GUY HE'S UP AGAINST?
APPARENTLY HE DID WRESTLING ALL THROUGH HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE.
IT'S HIS 10TH AMATEUR FIGHT AND HE'S RACKED UP A GOOD NUMBER OF K.O.'S
IN A WAY, HE'S A VETERAN.
YAMABUKI'S GOT A TOUGH OPPONENT FOR HIS 2ND MATCH.

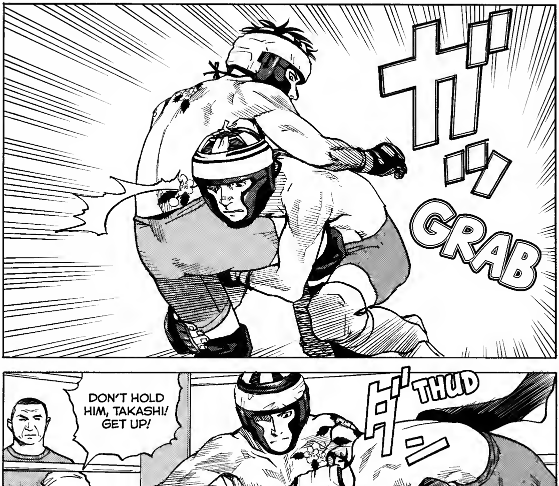

YOU SURE HIS 1ST OPPONENT WASN'T JUST TOO WEAK?
ぐっさあ
THUK
…
FIRST OPPONENT
YOU BOTH FIGHT SOUTH-PAW.
LAY OFF THE LEFT AND STICK TO FRONT KICKS AND JABS TO KEEP YOUR DISTANCE.
RIGHT.
GO IN WHEN YOU READ HIS MID LEFT.
GOT IT.
JUST LIKE WE PRAC-TICED!
アーン
FIGHT!
DING
カ

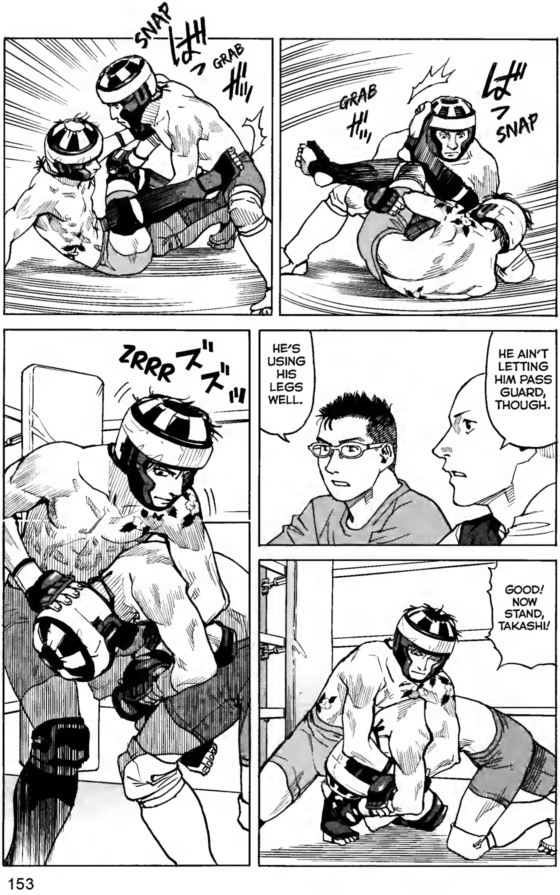

SQUEAK
キュ
BAM
FWOO
ヒュ
WHOA ...
STILL GOING TO THE LEFT MIDDLE AGAINST ANOTHER LEFTIE?
GUTSY.
DAMN IT, KID ...

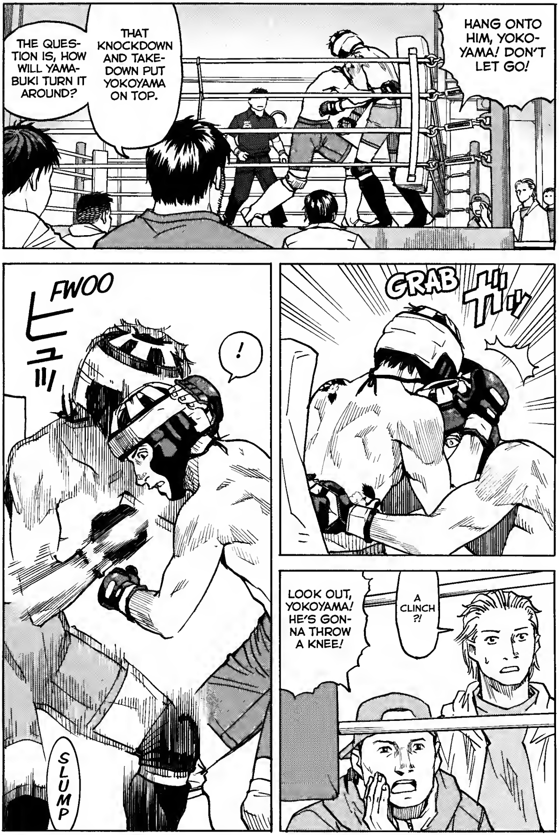

ISN'T IT A BAD IDEA TO GO FOR MID LEFT AGAINST A SOUTHPAW?
JUST WATCH.
...
SKFF
!

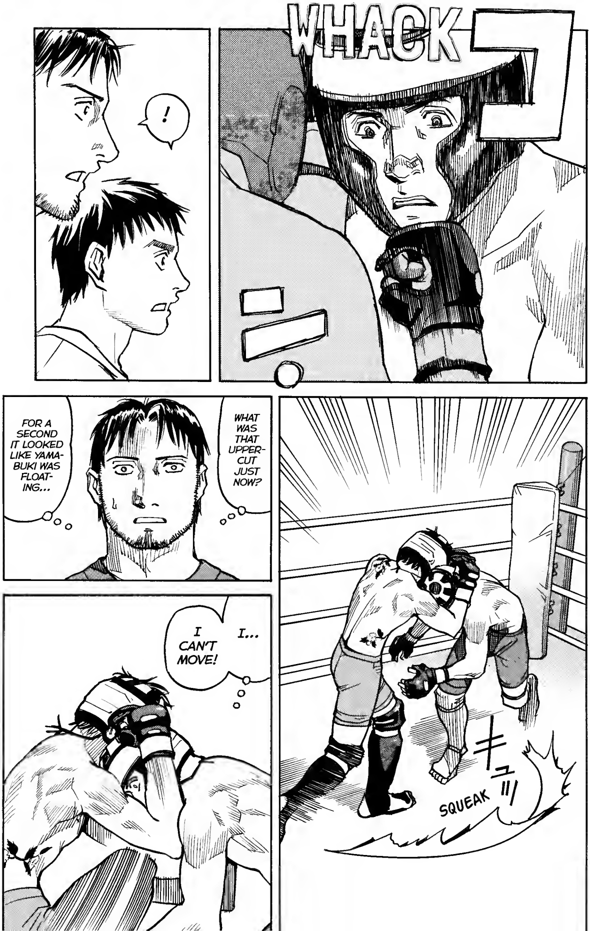

BOOM
!
HE COUNTERED!
DOWN!
ONE!
TWO!
THREE!
HE JUST BARELY MANAGED TO BLOCK WITH HIS FOREHEAD.
...

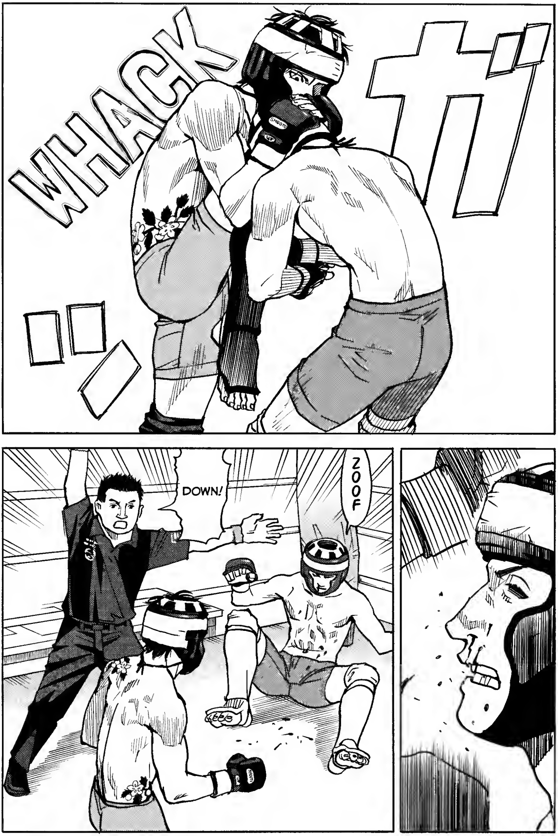

...
THAT HAPPENS.
WHEN TWO LEFTIES FIGHT AND ONE HAS A WRESTLER'S EXPLOSIVE POWER...
FIGHT!
...IT BECOMES MUCH HARDER TO LAND KICKS.
NOW, HOW WILL HE CHANGE HIS GAME UP?
SWISH
DASH

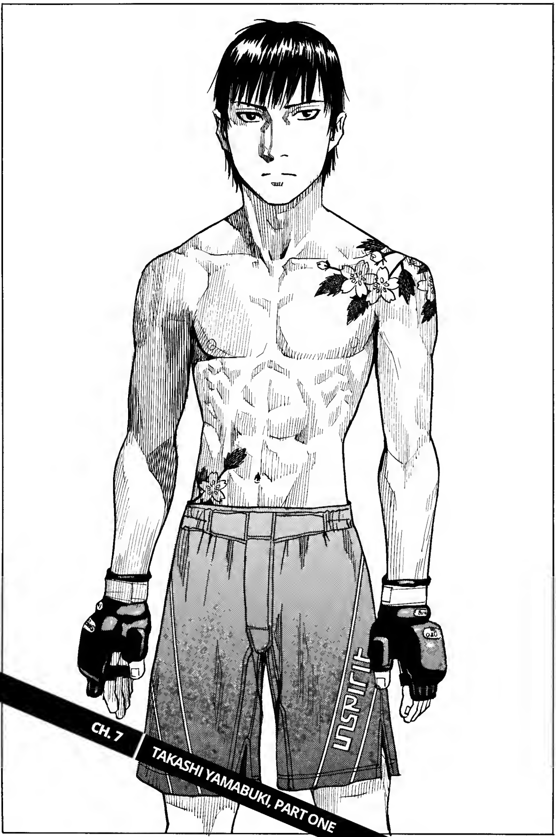

ガッ
GRAB
DON'T HOLD HIM, TAKASHI! GET UP!
ダン
THUD
HIS TACKLE DEFENSE STILL ISN'T VERY GOOD...
MAYBE HE'S STILL FEELING THAT LAST BLOW?


GRAB
ガッ
ばっ
SNAP
SNAP
ばっ
GRAB
ガッ
HE AIN'T LETTING HIM PASS GUARD, THOUGH.
HE'S USING HIS LEGS WELL.
GOOD! NOW STAND, TAKASHI!
ZRRR
ズズッ


HANG ONTO HIM, YOKOYAMA! DON'T LET GO!
THAT KNOCKDOWN AND TAKEDOWN PUT YOKOYAMA ON TOP.
THE QUESTION IS, HOW WILL YAMABUKI TURN IT AROUND?
GRAB
ガッ
FWOO
ヒュッ
!
SLUMP
A CLINCH?!
LOOK OUT, YOKOYAMA! HE'S GONNA THROW A KNEE!

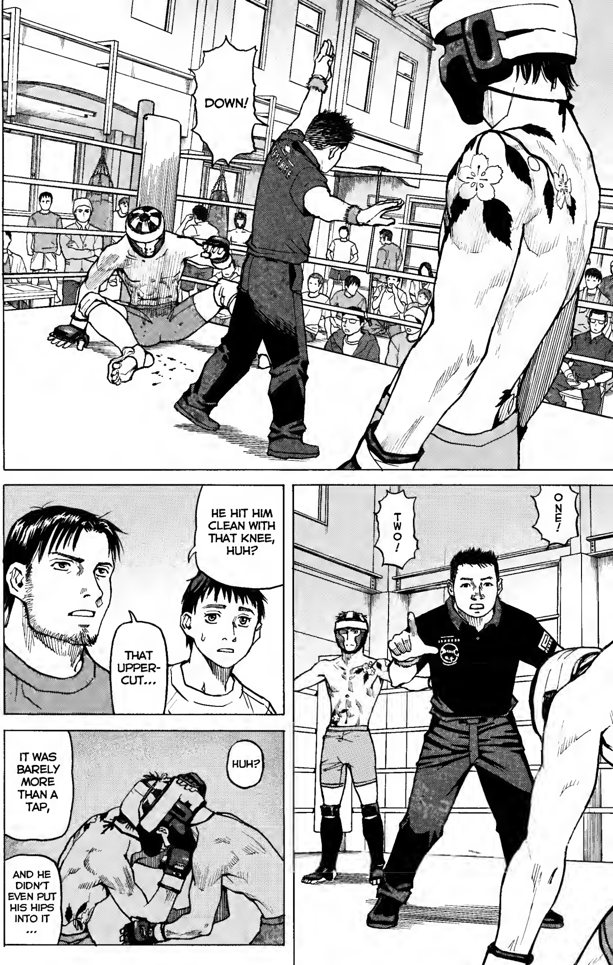

WHACK
!
SQUEAK
WHAT WAS THAT UPPERCUT JUST NOW?
FOR A SECOND IT LOOKED LIKE YAMABUKI WAS FLOATING...
I...
I CAN'T MOVE!

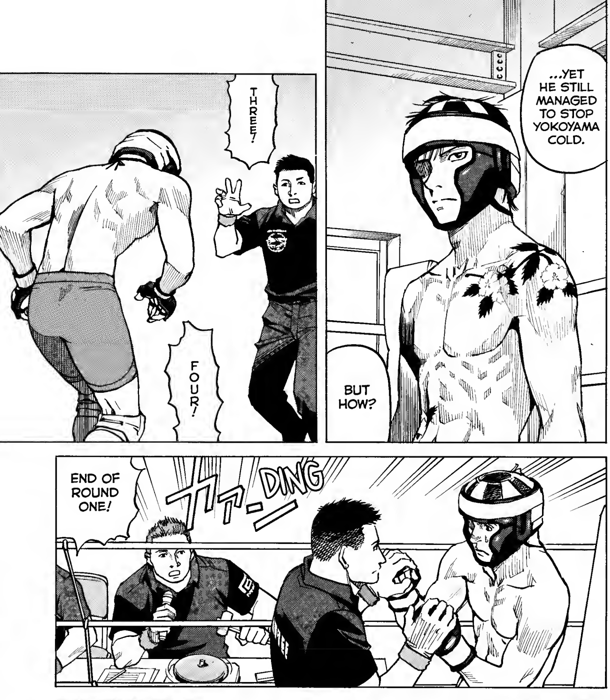

ガ
ッ
WHACK
SHOOTO
ZOOF
DOWN!

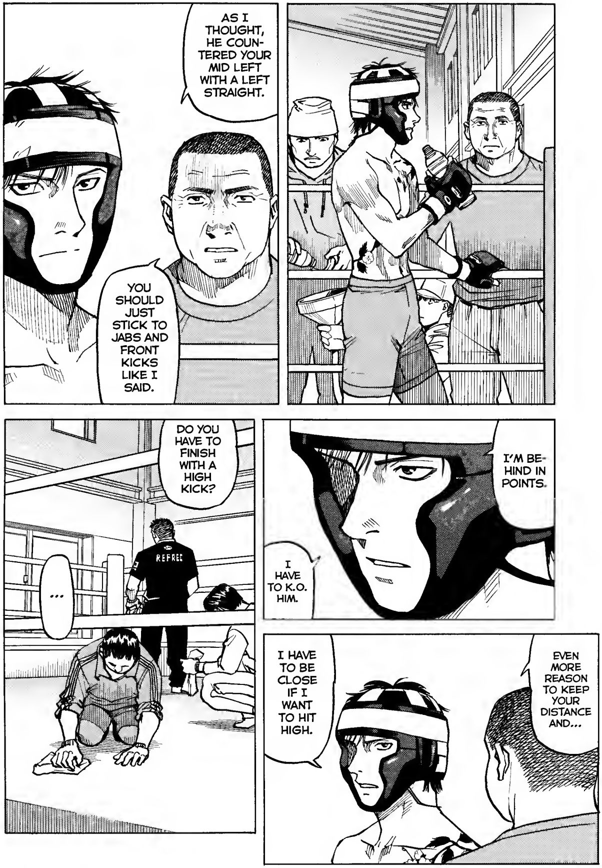


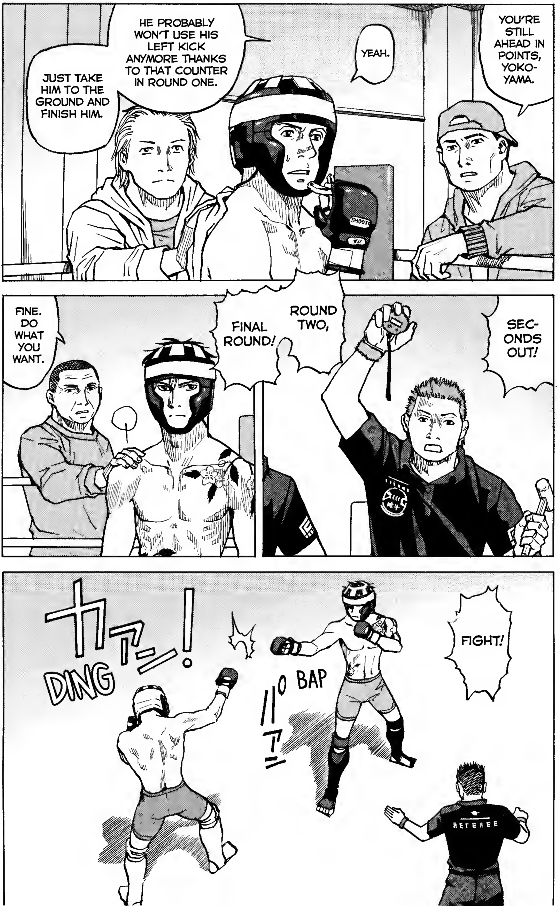
CH. 7

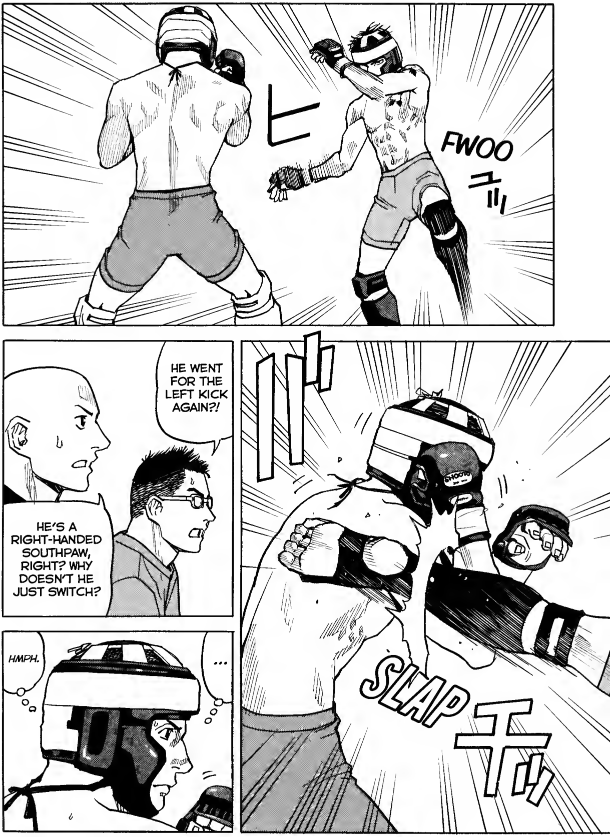
TAKASHI YAMABUKI, PART ONE

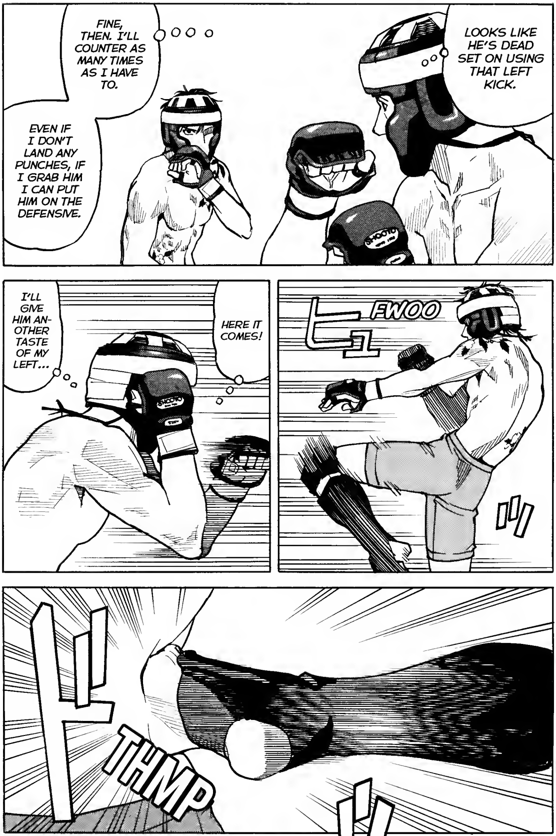

DOWN!
ONE!
TWO!
HE HIT HIM CLEAN WITH THAT KNEE, HUH?
THAT UPPERCUT...
HUH?
IT WAS BARELY MORE THAN A TAP,
AND HE DIDN'T EVEN PUT HIS HIPS INTO IT...

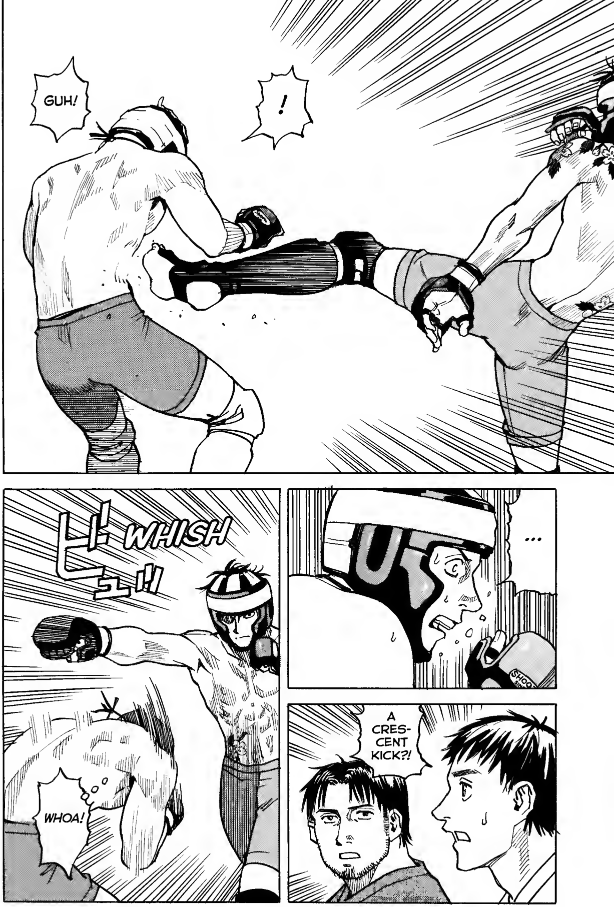

...YET HE STILL MANAGED TO STOP YOKOYAMA COLD.
BUT HOW?
THREE!
FOUR!
END OF ROUND ONE!
DING
SAVED BY THE BELL...
I'M SURPRISED HE GOT UP.

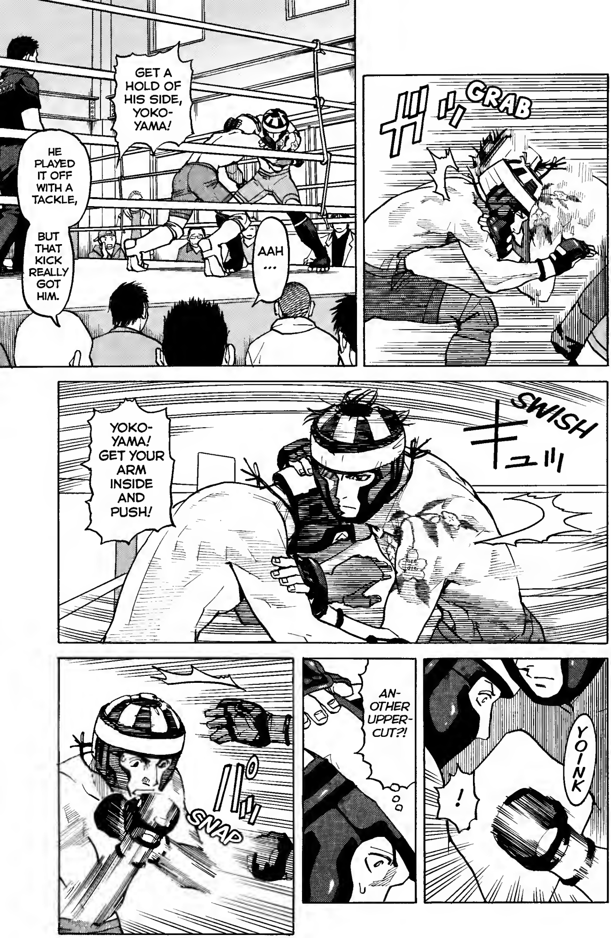

AS I THOUGHT, HE COUNTERED YOUR MID LEFT WITH A LEFT STRAIGHT.
YOU SHOULD JUST STICK TO JABS AND FRONT KICKS LIKE I SAID.
I'M BEHIND IN POINTS.
I HAVE TO K.O. HIM.
DO YOU HAVE TO FINISH WITH A HIGH KICK?
REFREE
...
EVEN MORE REASON TO KEEP YOUR DISTANCE AND...
I HAVE TO BE CLOSE IF I WANT TO HIT HIGH.

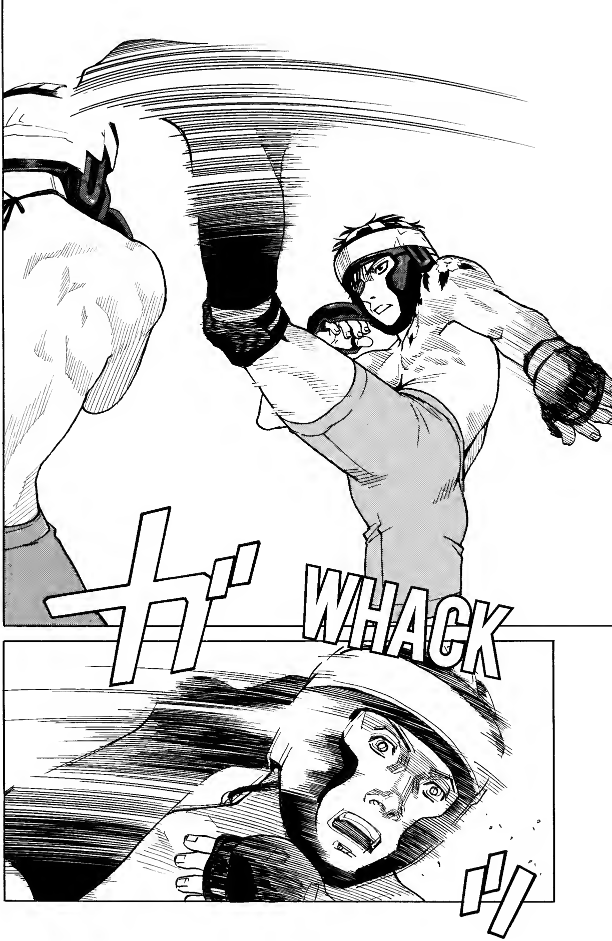

YOU'RE STILL AHEAD IN POINTS, YOKOYAMA.
YEAH.
HE PROBABLY WON'T USE HIS LEFT KICK ANYMORE THANKS TO THAT COUNTER IN ROUND ONE.
JUST TAKE HIM TO THE GROUND AND FINISH HIM.
SHOOTO
SECONDS OUT!
ROUND TWO,
FINAL ROUND!
FINE. DO WHAT YOU WANT.
FIGHT!
パァ
BAP
カァン!
DING
REFEREE

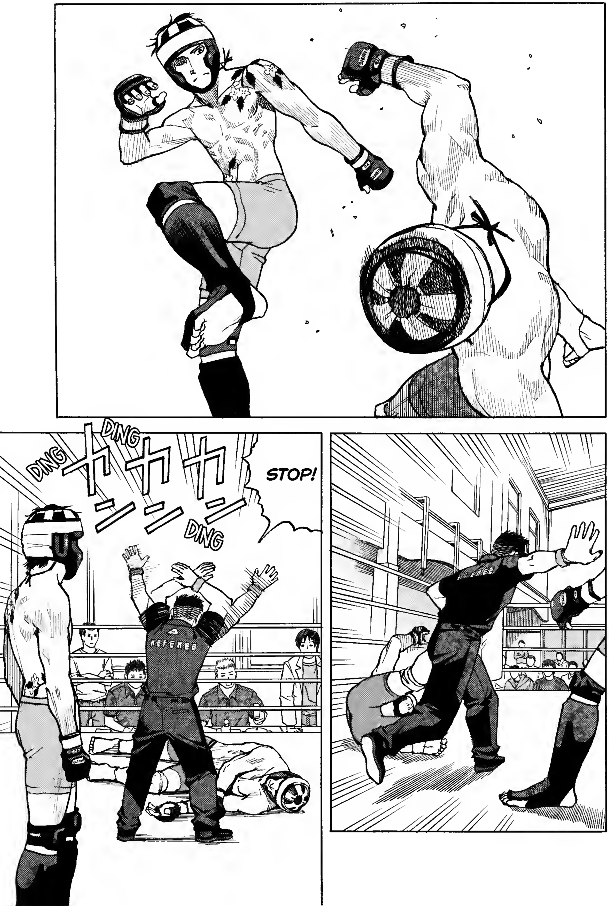

ヒ
FWOO
ユッ
バッ
SLAP
チッ
HE WENT FOR THE LEFT KICK AGAIN?!
HE'S A RIGHT-HANDED SOUTHPAW, RIGHT? WHY DOESN'T HE JUST SWITCH?
...
HMPH.

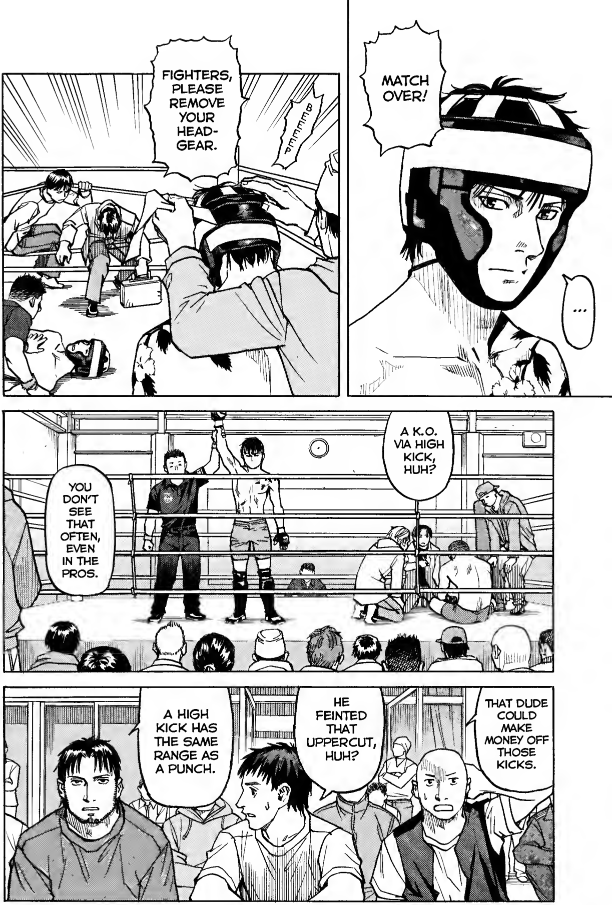

LOOKS LIKE HE'S DEAD SET ON USING THAT LEFT KICK.
FINE, THEN. I'LL COUNTER AS MANY TIMES AS I HAVE TO.
EVEN IF I DON'T LAND ANY PUNCHES, IF I GRAB HIM I CAN PUT HIM ON THE DEFENSIVE.
SHOOTO
ヒュ
FWOO
HERE IT COMES!
I'LL GIVE HIM ANOTHER TASTE OF MY LEFT...
SHOOTO
ド
THMP

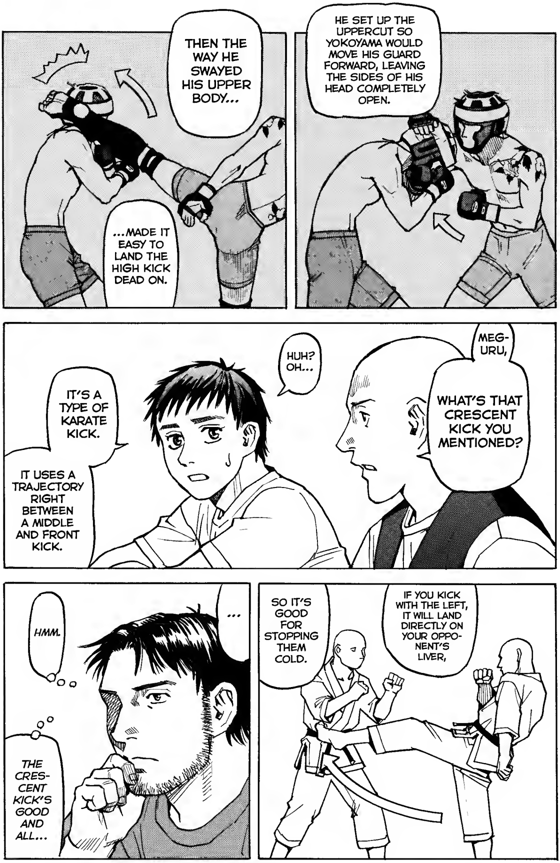

!
GUH!
...
ビュッ
WHISH
WHOA!
A CRESCENT KICK?!

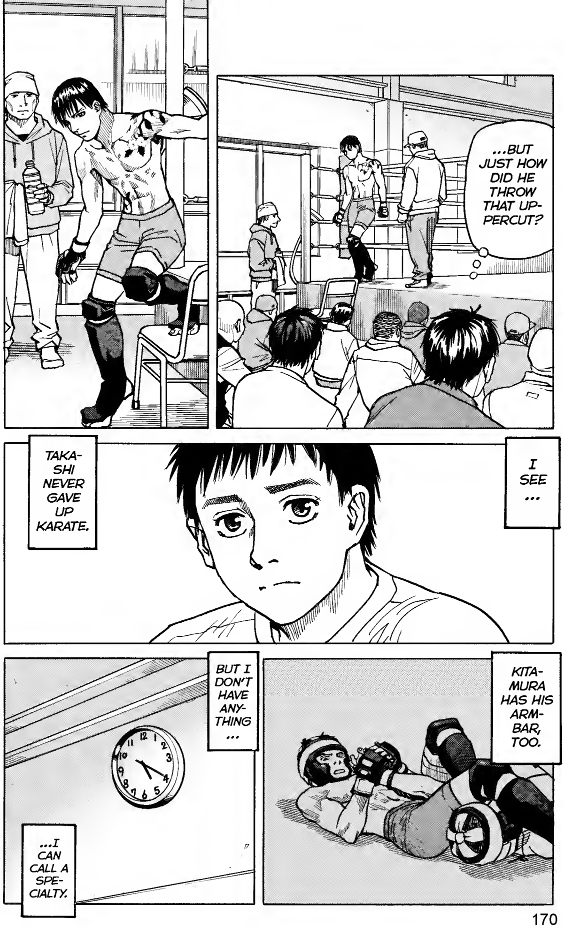

GET A HOLD OF HIS SIDE, YOKOYAMA!
HE PLAYED IT OFF WITH A TACKLE,
BUT THAT KICK REALLY GOT HIM.
AAH ...
ガッ
GRAB
YOKOYAMA! GET YOUR ARM INSIDE AND PUSH!
キュッ
SWISH
パッ
SNAP
ANOTHER UPPERCUT?!
!
YOINK

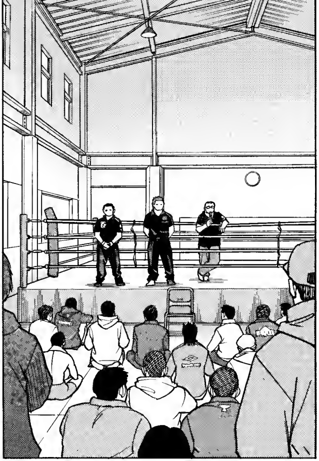

ガ
WHACK
ッ

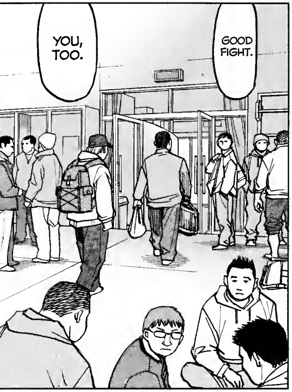

STOP!
カンカンカン
DING
DING
DING
REFEREE

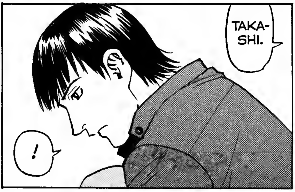

MATCH OVER!
...
FIGHTERS, PLEASE REMOVE YOUR HEADGEAR.
BEEEEP
A K.O. VIA HIGH KICK, HUH?
YOU DON'T SEE THAT OFTEN, EVEN IN THE PROS.
THAT DUDE COULD MAKE MONEY OFF THOSE KICKS.
HE FEINTED THAT UPPERCUT, HUH?
A HIGH KICK HAS THE SAME RANGE AS A PUNCH.

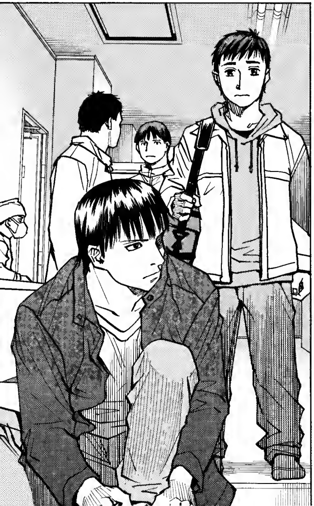

HE SET UP THE UPPERCUT SO YOKOYAMA WOULD MOVE HIS GUARD FORWARD, LEAVING THE SIDES OF HIS HEAD COMPLETELY OPEN.
THEN THE WAY HE SWAYED HIS UPPER BODY...
...MADE IT EASY TO LAND THE HIGH KICK DEAD ON.
MEGURU,
WHAT'S THAT CRESCENT KICK YOU MENTIONED?
HUH? OH...
IT'S A TYPE OF KARATE KICK.
IT USES A TRAJECTORY RIGHT BETWEEN A MIDDLE AND FRONT KICK.
IF YOU KICK WITH THE LEFT, IT WILL LAND DIRECTLY ON YOUR OPPONENT'S LIVER,
SO IT'S GOOD FOR STOPPING THEM COLD.
...
HMM.
THE CRESCENT KICK'S GOOD AND ALL...

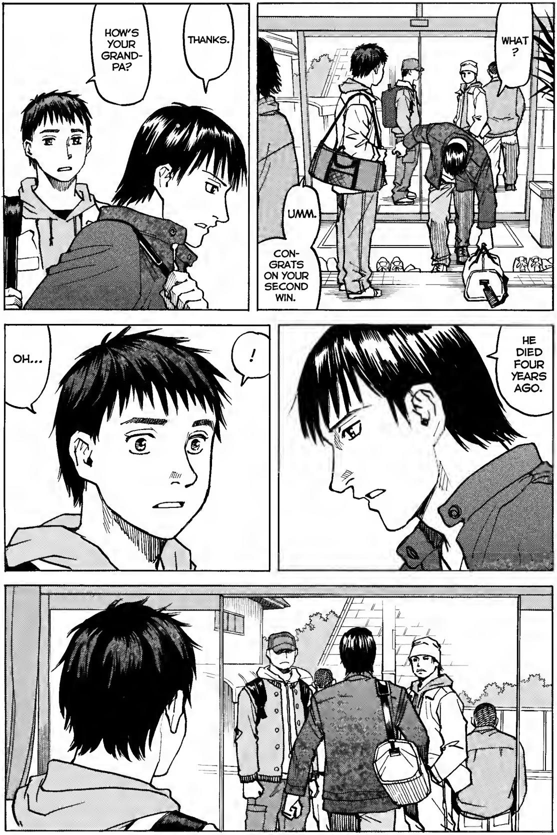

...BUT JUST HOW DID HE THROW THAT UPPERCUT?
I SEE...
TAKASHI NEVER GAVE UP KARATE.
KITAMURA HAS HIS ARMBAR, TOO.
BUT I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING...
...I CAN CALL A SPECIALTY.

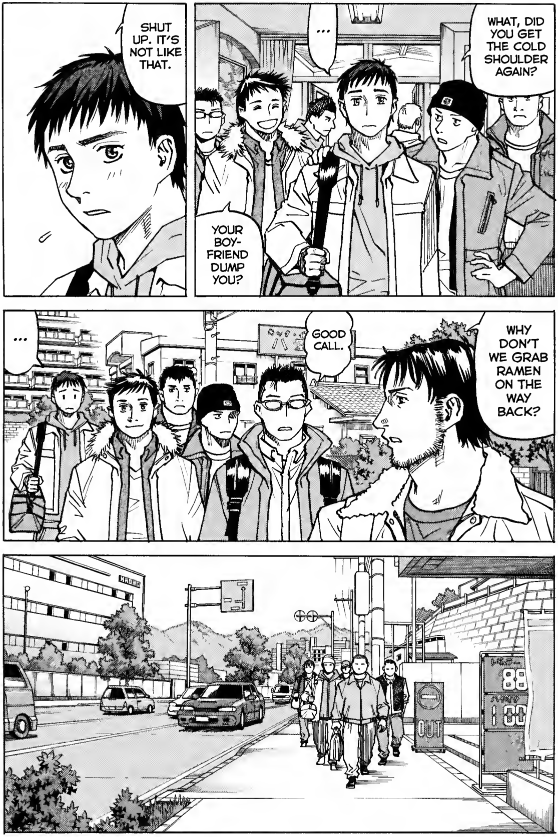


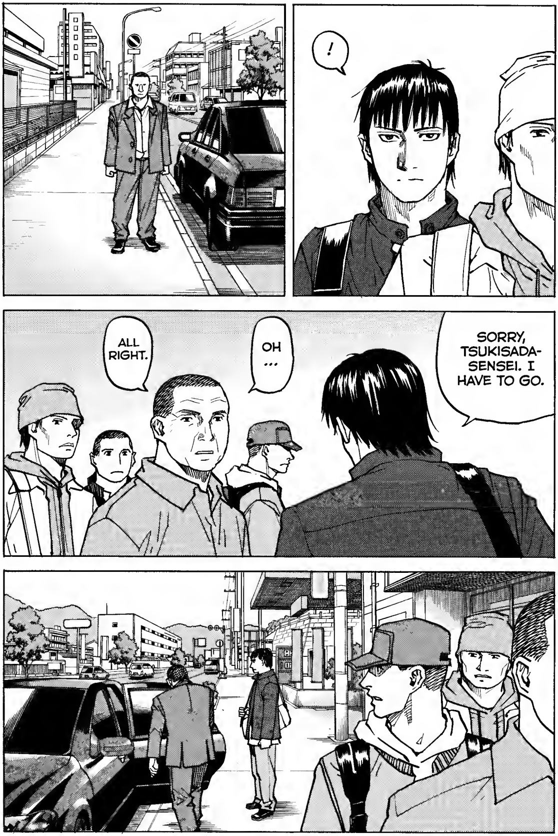

GOOD FIGHT.
YOU, TOO.

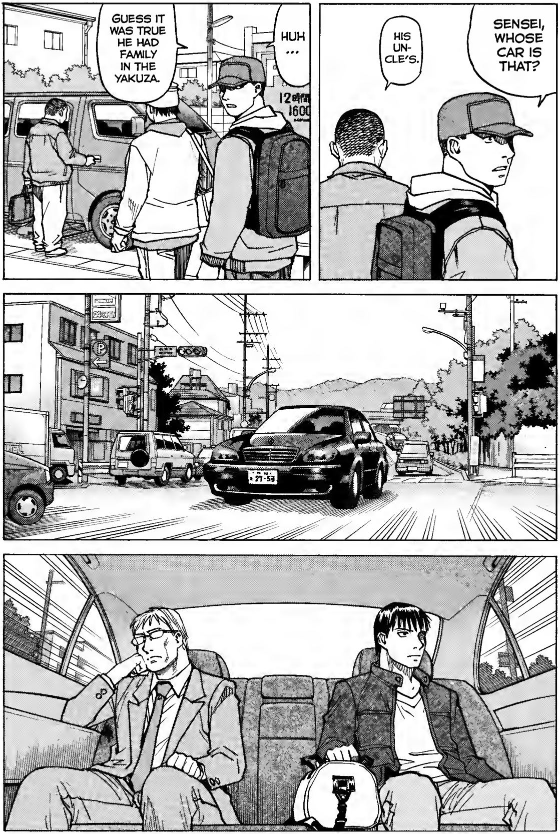

TAKASHI.
!

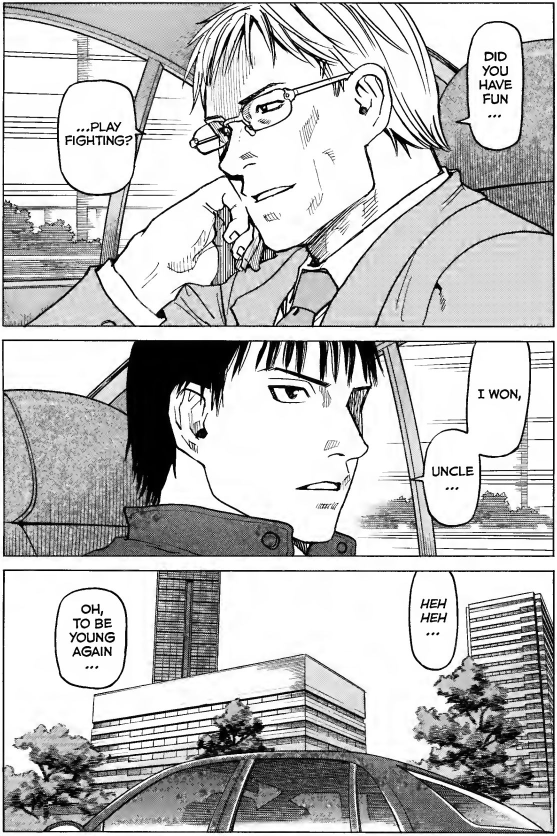


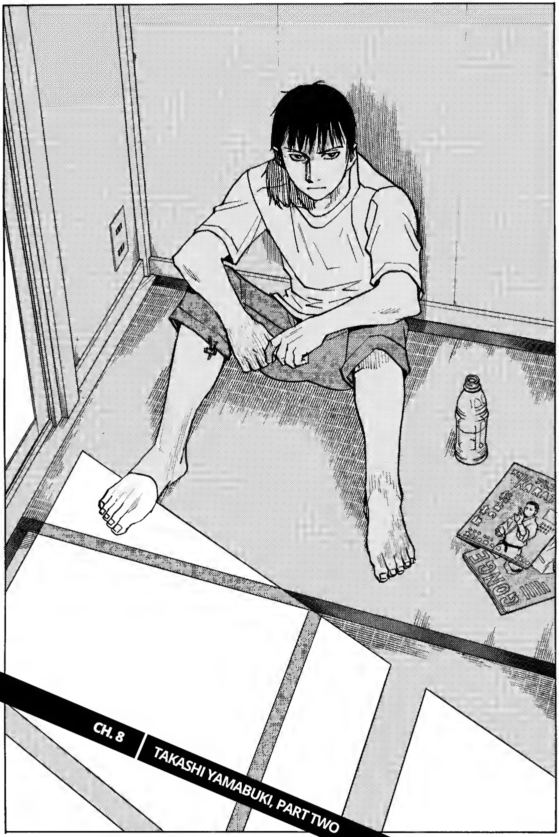

WHAT ?
UMM.
CONGRATS ON YOUR SECOND WIN.
THANKS.
HOW'S YOUR GRANDPA?
HE DIED FOUR YEARS AGO.
!
OH...


WHAT, DID YOU GET THE COLD SHOULDER AGAIN?
...
YOUR BOYFRIEND DUMP YOU?
SHUT UP. IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.
WHY DON'T WE GRAB RAMEN ON THE WAY BACK?
GOOD CALL.
...
OUT


!
SORRY, TSUKISADA-SENSEI. I HAVE TO GO.
OH ...
ALL RIGHT.

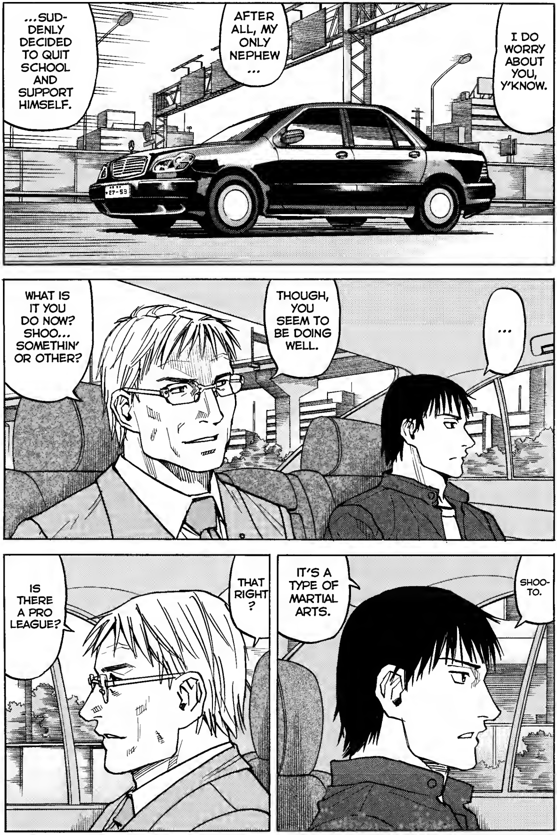

SENSEI, WHOSE CAR IS THAT?
HIS UN-CLE'S.
HUH ...
GUESS IT WAS TRUE HE HAD FAMILY IN THE YAKUZA.
12時間 1600

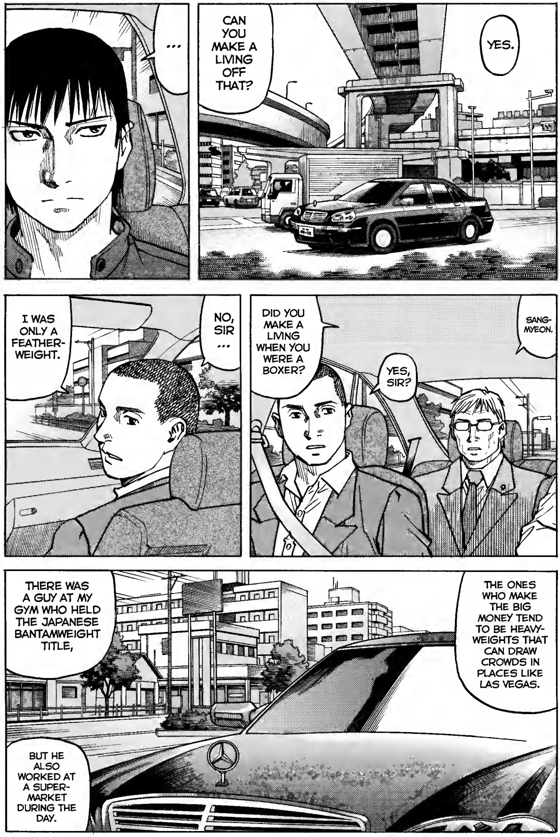

DID YOU HAVE FUN ...
...PLAY FIGHTING?
I WON,
UNCLE ...
HEH HEH ...
OH, TO BE YOUNG AGAIN ...

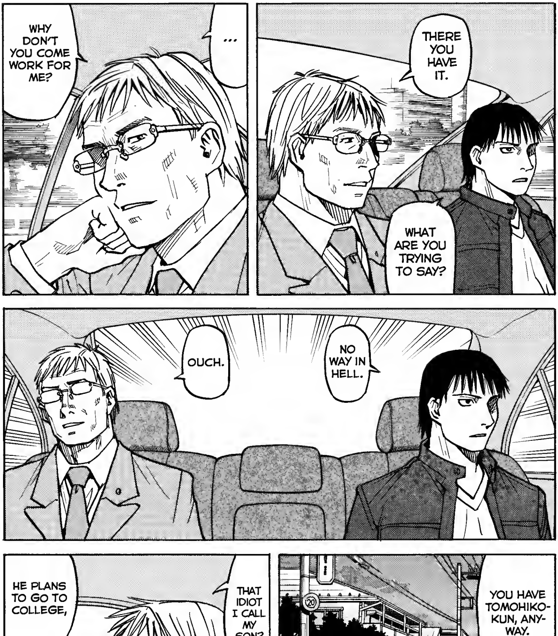


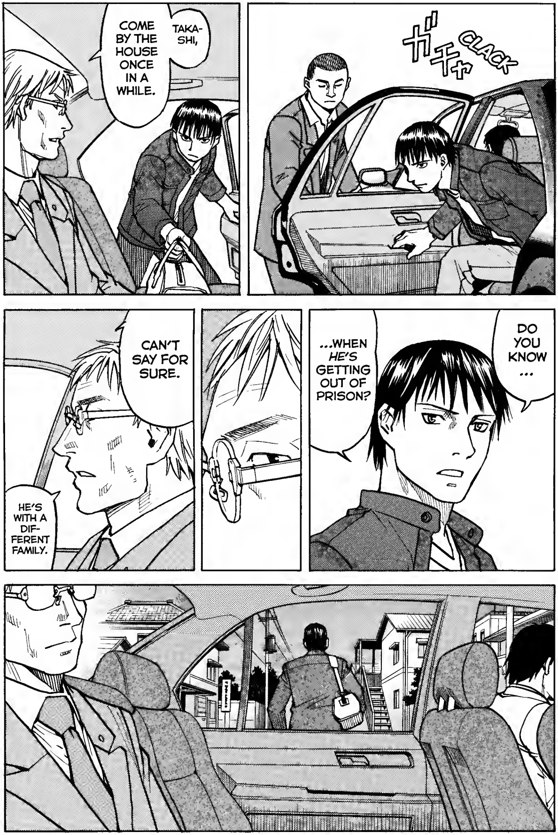
CH. 8

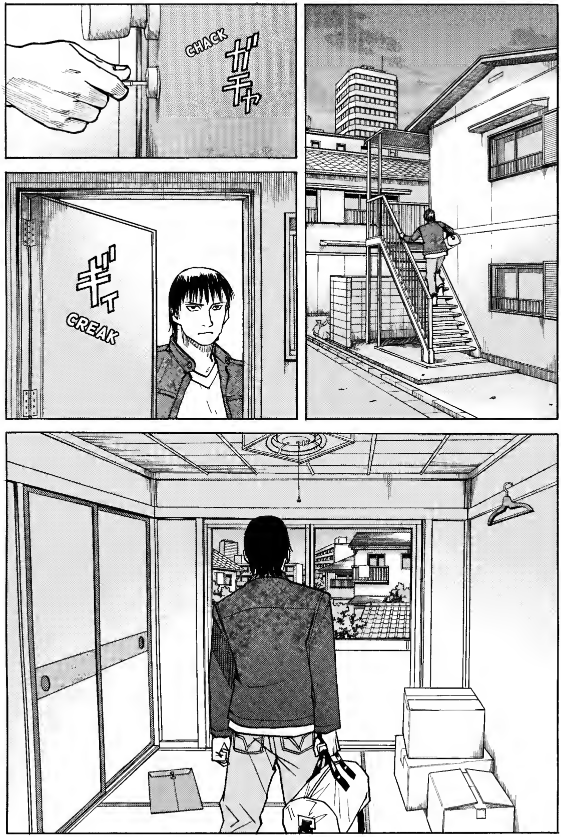
TAKASHI YAMABUKI, PART TWO

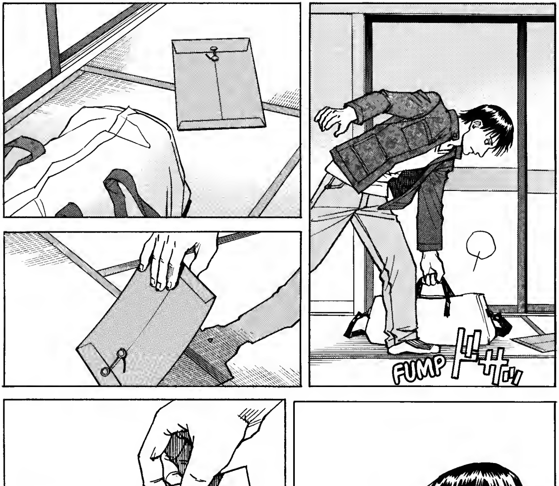

I DO WORRY ABOUT YOU, Y'KNOW.
AFTER ALL, MY ONLY NEPHEW...
...SUDDENLY DECIDED TO QUIT SCHOOL AND SUPPORT HIMSELF.
...
THOUGH, YOU SEEM TO BE DOING WELL.
WHAT IS IT YOU DO NOW? SHOO... SOMETHIN' OR OTHER?
SHOO-TO.
IT'S A TYPE OF MARTIAL ARTS.
THAT RIGHT?
IS THERE A PRO LEAGUE?

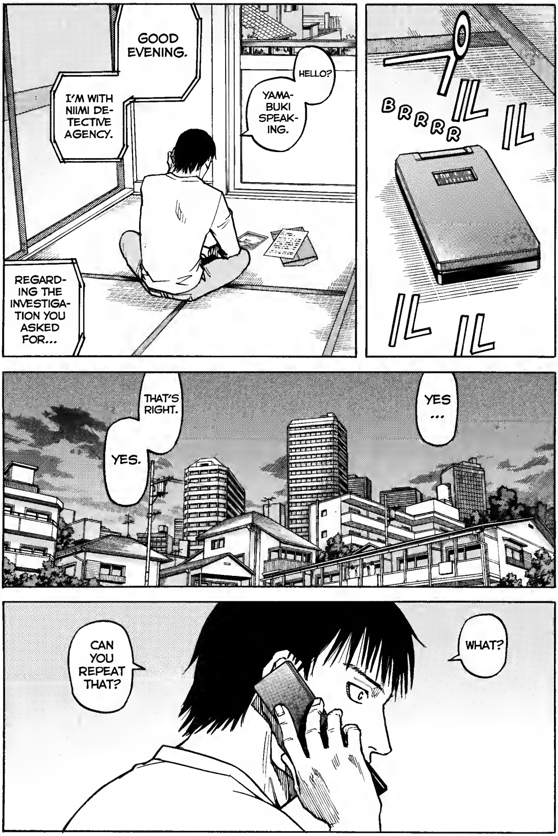

YES.
CAN YOU MAKE A LIVING OFF THAT?
...
SANG-MYEON.
YES, SIR?
DID YOU MAKE A LIVING WHEN YOU WERE A BOXER?
NO, SIR ...
I WAS ONLY A FEATHER-WEIGHT.
THE ONES WHO MAKE THE BIG MONEY TEND TO BE HEAVY-WEIGHTS THAT CAN DRAW CROWDS IN PLACES LIKE LAS VEGAS.
THERE WAS A GUY AT MY GYM WHO HELD THE JAPANESE BANTAMWEIGHT TITLE,
BUT HE ALSO WORKED AT A SUPER-MARKET DURING THE DAY.

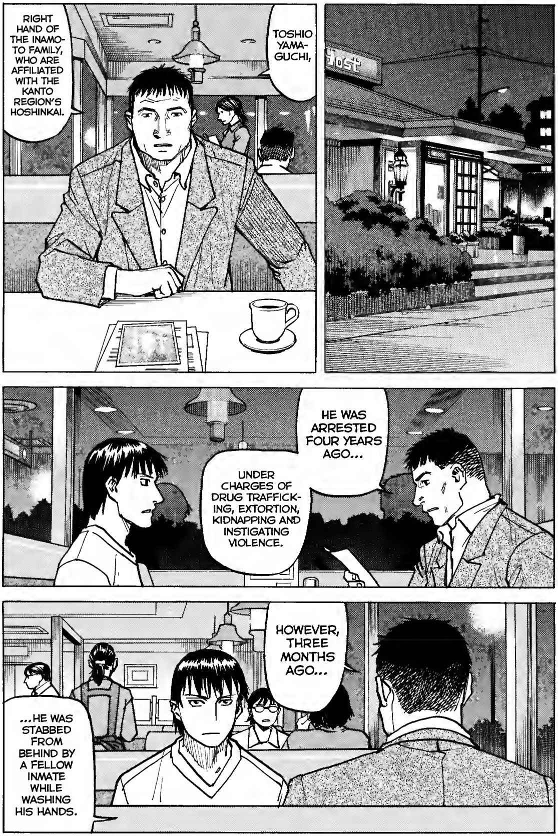

THERE YOU HAVE IT.
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY?
WHY DON'T YOU COME WORK FOR ME?
...
NO WAY IN HELL.
OUCH.
YOU HAVE TOMOHIKO-KUN, ANYWAY.
SCREECH
THAT IDIOT I CALL MY SON?
HE PLANS TO GO TO COLLEGE,
STUPID THOUGH HE MAY BE.

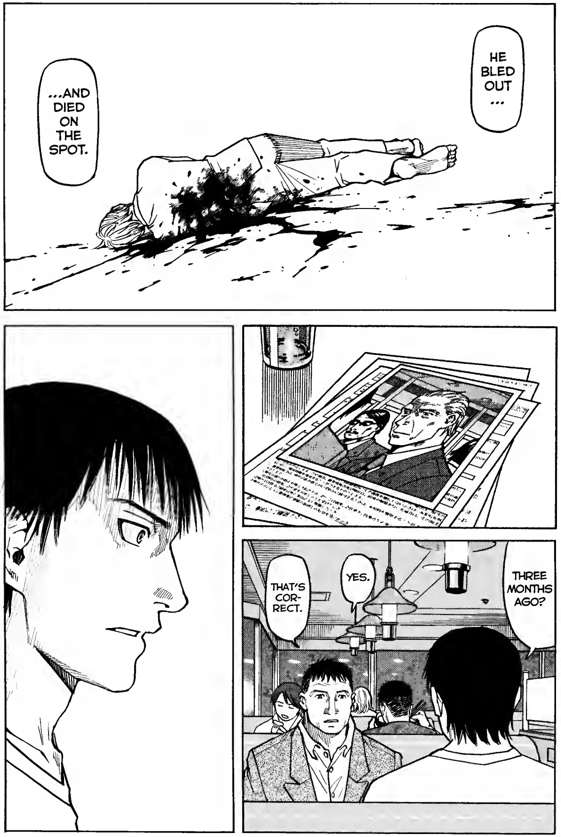

ガチャ
CLACK
TAKASHI,
COME BY THE HOUSE ONCE IN A WHILE.
DO YOU KNOW ...
...WHEN *HE'S* GETTING OUT OF PRISON?
CAN'T SAY FOR SURE.
HE'S WITH A DIFFERENT FAMILY.

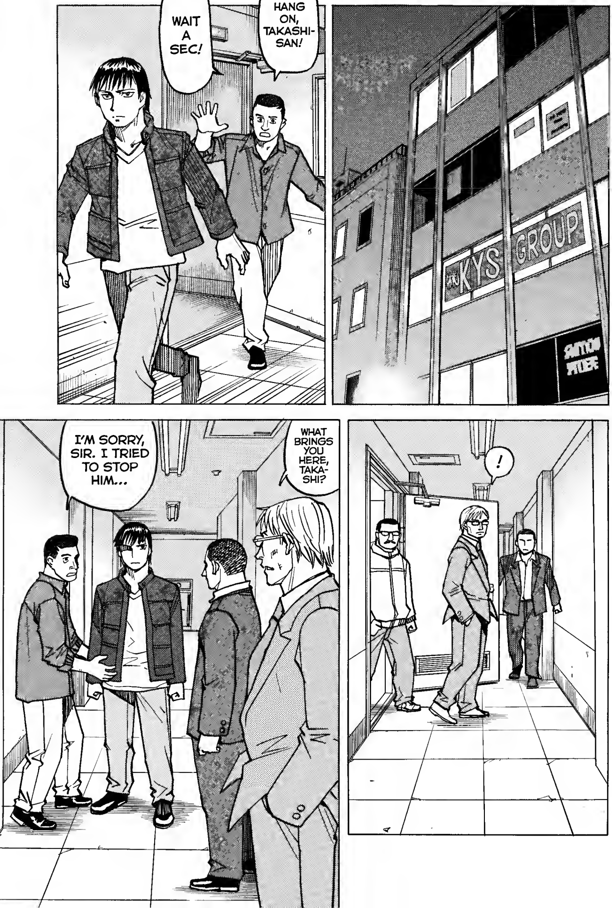

CHACK
ガチャ
ギィ
CREAK

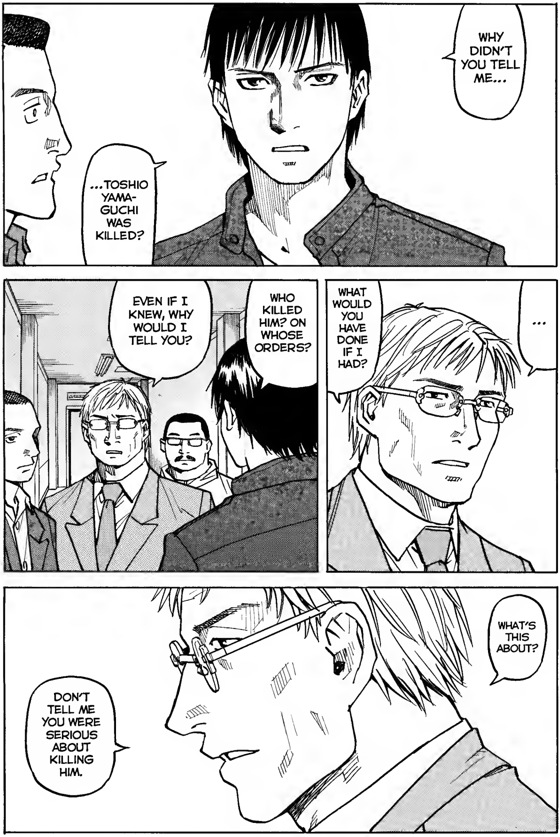

FUMP
ドサッ

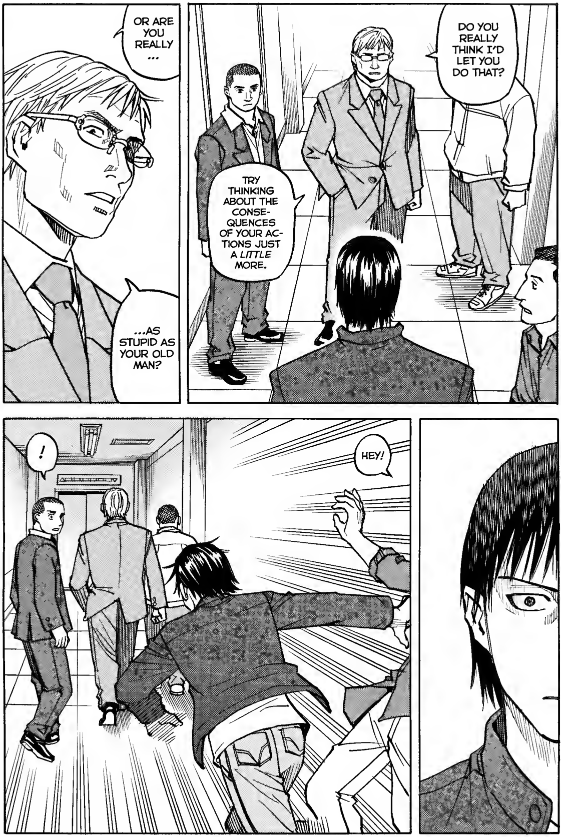

BRRRR
HELLO?
YAMABUKI SPEAKING.
GOOD EVENING.
I'M WITH NIIMI DETECTIVE AGENCY.
REGARDING THE INVESTIGATION YOU ASKED FOR...
YES...
THAT'S RIGHT.
YES.
WHAT?
CAN YOU REPEAT THAT?

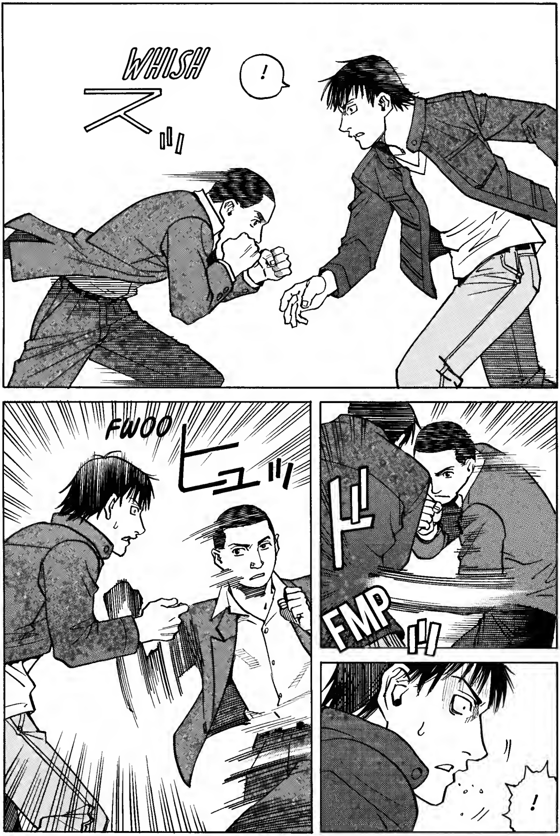

Host
TOSHIO YAMAGUCHI,
RIGHT HAND OF THE INAMOTO FAMILY, WHO ARE AFFILIATED WITH THE KANTO REGION'S HOSHINKAI.
HE WAS ARRESTED FOUR YEARS AGO...
UNDER CHARGES OF DRUG TRAFFICKING, EXTORTION, KIDNAPPING AND INSTIGATING VIOLENCE.
HOWEVER, THREE MONTHS AGO...
...HE WAS STABBED FROM BEHIND BY A FELLOW INMATE WHILE WASHING HIS HANDS.

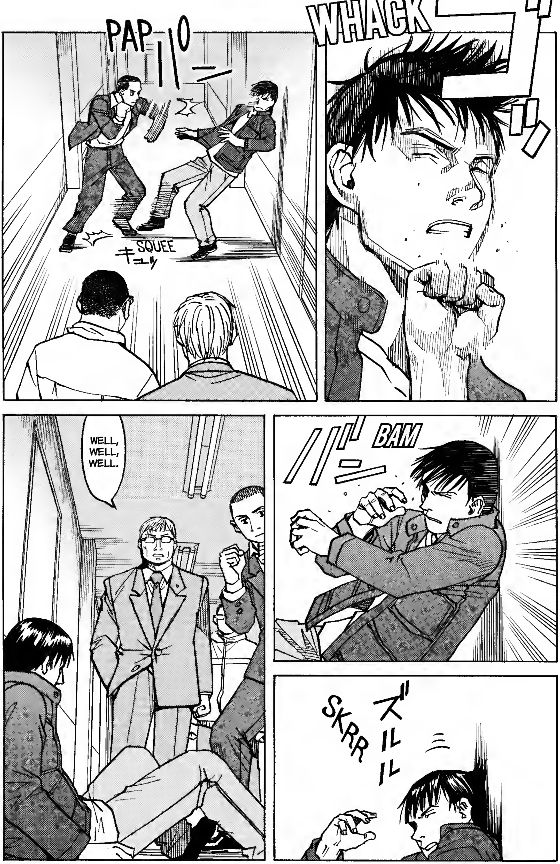

HE BLED OUT ...
...AND DIED ON THE SPOT.
THREE MONTHS AGO?
YES.
THAT'S CORRECT.

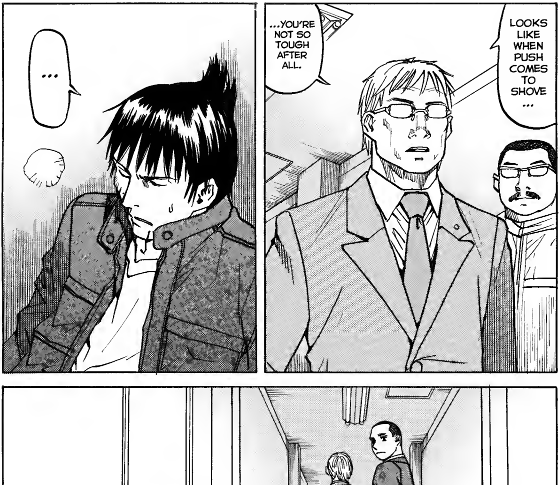

KYS GROUP
HANG ON, TAKASHI-SAN!
WAIT A SEC!
!
WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE, TAKASHI?
I'M SORRY, SIR. I TRIED TO STOP HIM...

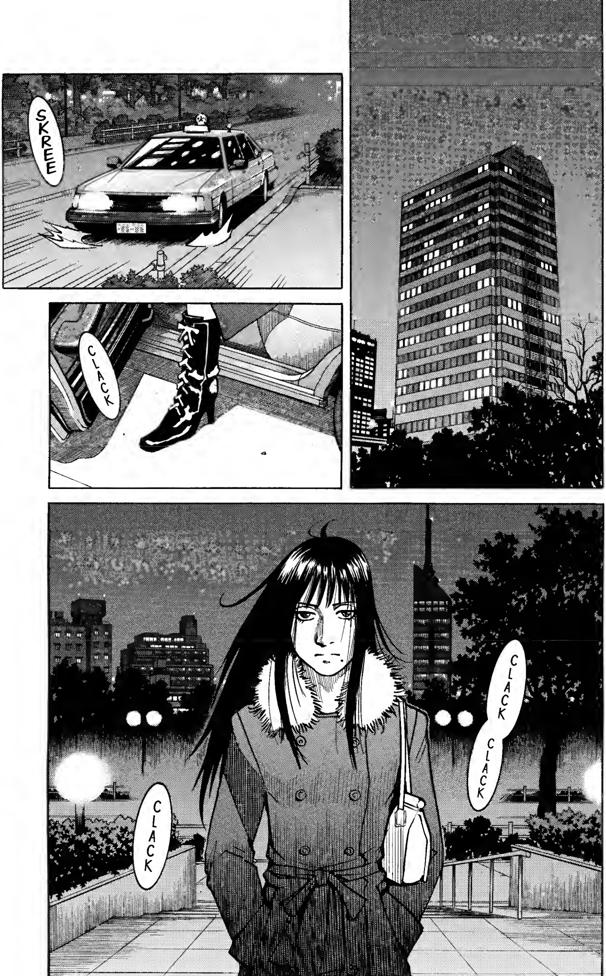

WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME...
...TOSHIO YAMAGUCHI WAS KILLED?
...
WHAT WOULD YOU HAVE DONE IF I HAD?
WHO KILLED HIM? ON WHOSE ORDERS?
EVEN IF I KNEW, WHY WOULD I TELL YOU?
WHAT'S THIS ABOUT?
DON'T TELL ME YOU WERE SERIOUS ABOUT KILLING HIM.

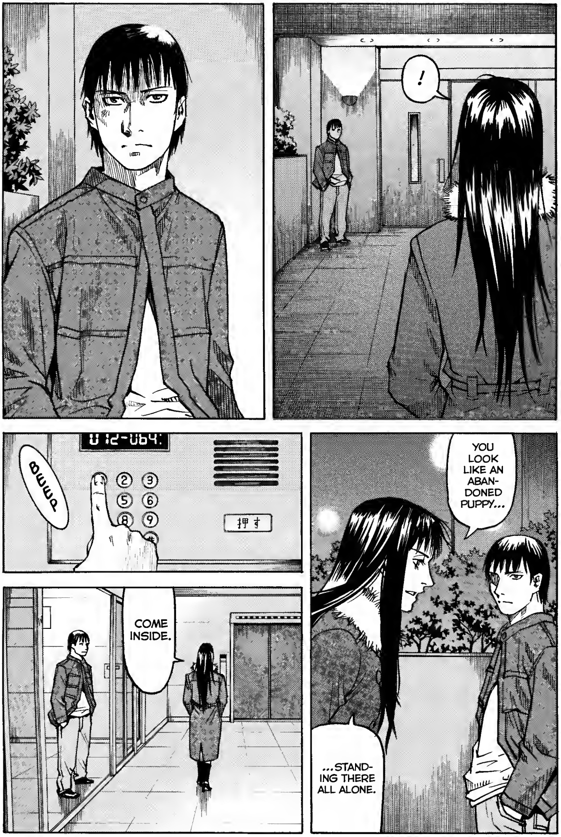

DO YOU REALLY THINK I'D LET YOU DO THAT?
TRY THINKING ABOUT THE CONSEQUENCES OF YOUR ACTIONS JUST A *LITTLE* MORE.
OR ARE YOU REALLY ...
...AS STUPID AS YOUR OLD MAN?
HEY!
!

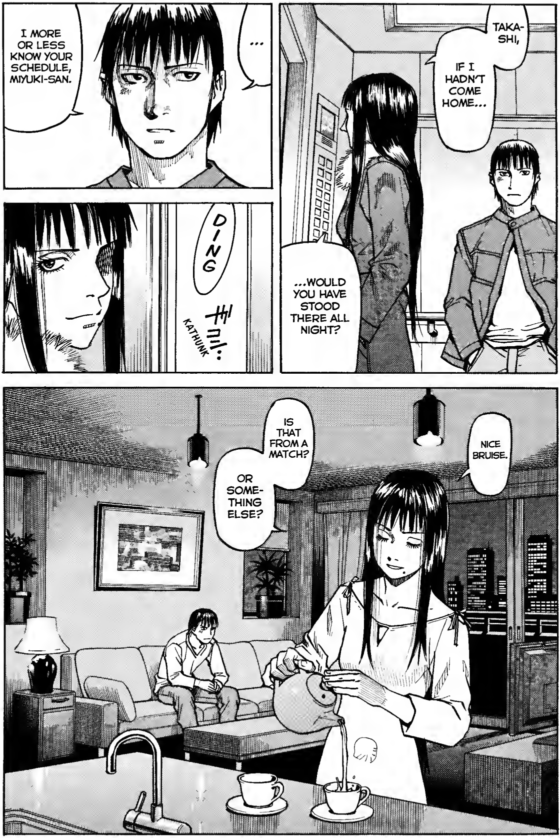

!
WHISH
スッ
ドッ
FMP
!
FWOO
ヒュッ

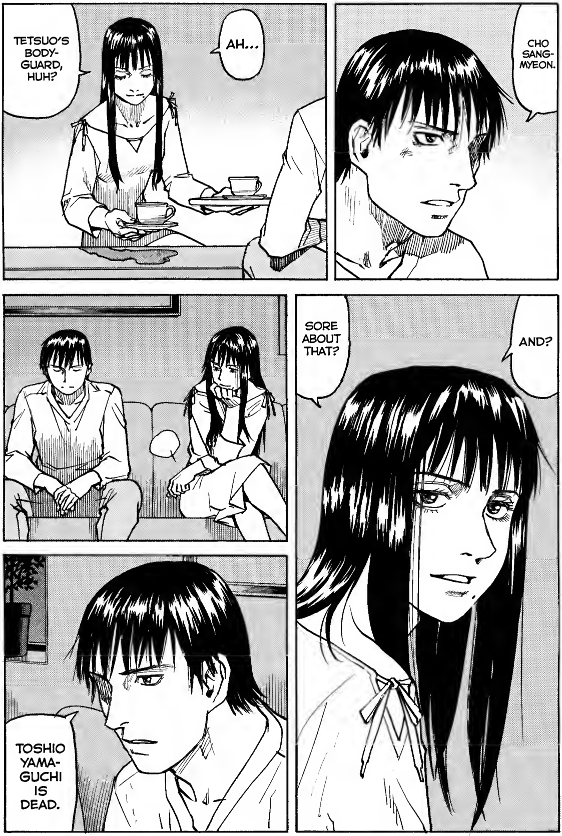

WHACK
ゴッ
PAP
パーン
SQUEE
キュッ
BAM
バン
SKRR
ズルル
WELL, WELL, WELL.

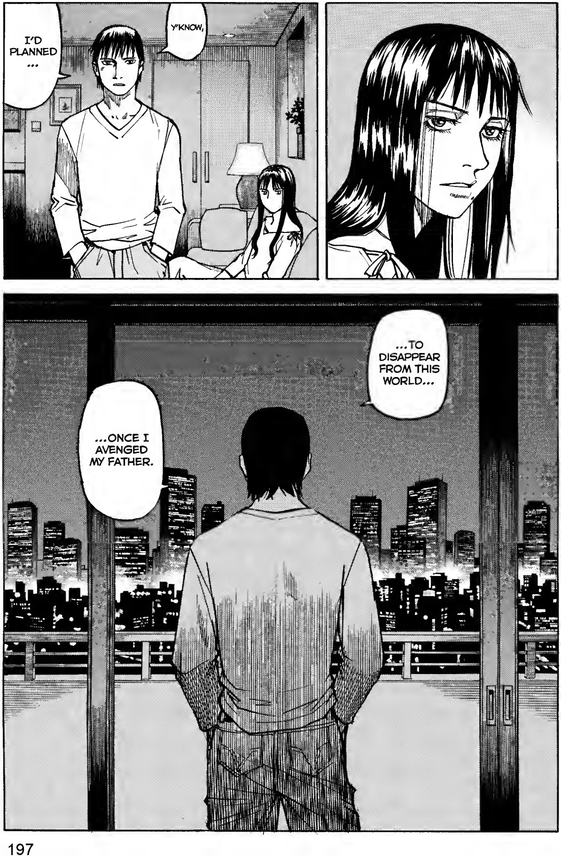

LOOKS LIKE WHEN PUSH COMES TO SHOVE...
...YOU'RE NOT SO TOUGH AFTER ALL.
...

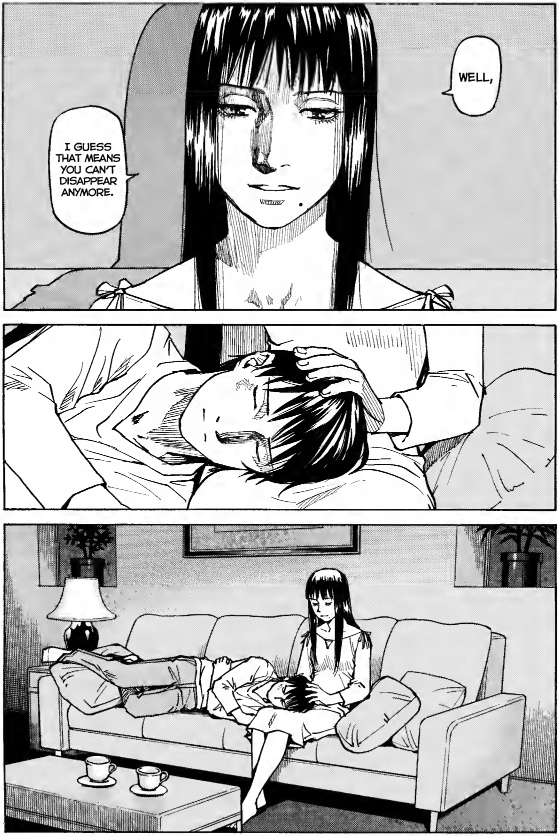

SKREE
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK
CLACK


!
YOU LOOK LIKE AN ABANDONED PUPPY...
...STANDING THERE ALL ALONE.
012-064
BEEP
押す
COME INSIDE.


TAKASHI,
IF I HADN'T COME HOME...
...WOULD YOU HAVE STOOD THERE ALL NIGHT?
I MORE OR LESS KNOW YOUR SCHEDULE, MIYUKI-SAN.
...
DING
ギィ
KATHUNK
NICE BRUISE.
IS THAT FROM A MATCH?
OR SOMETHING ELSE?


CHO SANG-MYEON.
AH...
TETSUO'S BODYGUARD, HUH?
TOSHIO YAMAGUCHI IS DEAD.
AND?
SORE ABOUT THAT?


Y'KNOW,
I'D PLANNED ...
...TO DISAPPEAR FROM THIS WORLD...
...ONCE I AVENGED MY FATHER.


WELL,
I GUESS THAT MEANS YOU CAN'T DISAPPEAR ANYMORE.

All-Rounder Meguru 1

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